Copy to Mr Burnley Sunday Jany 8. 1865.

Office U. S. Military Telegraph.
WAR DEPARTMENT.

I 99487
R 4654
T 21 11 76

The following Telegram received at Washington, 1 a M. Jany 1865.

From Legation US in Japan Kanagawa Nov 29 1864

Via Customs House San Francisco Jany 7. 1865

Hon W. H. Seward

Secy of State

Two British officers in citizens dress, Maj Baldwin and Lieut Bird of the Twentieth (20) Regiment have been murdered by Japanese at Homiakuon within the treaty limits. Govt declares itself anxious for their arrest claiming it as an act of hostility to itself — Please inform Lord Lyons

Robt H. Pruyn Minister Resident

~~Consul~~ Of the US in Japan

~~Minister Resident~~

Rolls 1786 Pk 1679

No. 1. Rec'd 27 April 65 Dr Fulton

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa. 2nd January 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that in the evening of the 31st December last I issued a passport to Mr Warren E. Paine of Troy New York. - The accounts for the quarter ending that day had been closed already; I will therefore debit my account for salary for the next quarter with the amount of fee received therefor, and make the proper return to the Secretary of the Treasury as directed.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant

Robt. H. Pruyn
Minister Resident in Japan.

The Honorable
Wm H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

Robert R. Livingston
Minister Resident

No. 1.

No Enclosures

Received.

Passport issued to Mr Warren
E. Paine of Long New York.

Recd 27 April (Mr Shilton)

No. 24.

Legation of the United States in Japan.
Kanagawa January 9th 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt this day of Your Despatches Nos 72, 73, 74, 77, 78, 80, 81, 82 and 83, dated the 29th August, 29th August 30th August, 10th October 10th October 10th October 14th October, 17th October and 18th October respectively; also Circular relating to fees for passports dated the 12th September, all of 1864.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant.

Robt. H. Pruyn
Minister Resident in Japan.

The Honorable
Wm H. Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

Robert M. Brum.
Minister Resident

No. 2.

No Enclosures.

Received

Acknowledging receipt of Nos 72. 73. 74. 77. 78. 80. 81. 82 and 83. also Circular relating to fees for passports.

Rec'd 31. Mar. Mr Clarke

No. 3.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa January 19th 1865.

Sir.

I have the honor to advise You, that I have this day, conjointly with Captain Price Commanding the Jamestown, drawn in the alternative on the State and Navy Departments for the sum of $9500. gold Coin of the United States, for charter of the Steamer "Takiang". It is too late by this mail to give full explanations, which I will send this week via San Francisco, and which will probably reach You in advance of this despatch.

I enclose No. 1. receipt for bill and No 1
No 2. bill on Navy Department for No 2
advances.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant

John M. Pruyn
Minister Resident in Japan

The Honorable
Wm H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

Rangoon January 7. 1885

Robt. H. Thayer

Minister Resident

No. 3.

2 Enclosures

Received.

advising draft for $9500
for Charles Tarring

Rec.d 27 april

W. Bilton

N.4.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa January 17. 1865.

Sir.

I have now to inform You, that in conjunction with Captain Price, I have this day drawn in the alternative on the State and Navy Departments for the sum of $9500. gold coin of the United States in favor of the Agents representing the Owners of the "Takiang", chartered as I have advised You to represent the United States in the operations against Choshiu.-

The delay in giving it arose from a claim made for payment for six additional days employment of the Steamer, to which we did not feel at liberty to accede, as I had advised You of my intention to draw for a less period.-

The Agents have finally concluded to accept the draft, and are willing

The Honorable
Wm H. Seward
Secretary of State
Washington

6

to Submit the question of the allowance of the additional Sum of $1000, equivalent to a fraction over three days additional pay to the decision of the President.-

The original verbal agreement was made on the 18th of August, though some difference still existed as to the form and details of the Charterparty. - While these were under discussion, the Agents purchased the stores and Coal which were required, and put them onboard as opportunity was given, with occasional interruptions caused by holidays observed at the Custom House & by high winds and heavy Seas, which often render Communications with ships in this harbor almost impracticable at that season. The arrival of the Japanese Envoys, with news of the Convention with France, suspended the proposed expedition, and led to my abandoning the charter. The Agents however continued putting Coal and Stores onboard the Tsikiang, and I informed them, I was willing to make an equitable settlement of any loss sustained by them under our verbal under-

standing

Standing. - The Subsequent Chumption of the Expedition made it unnecessary to do it, and when the Charter agreement was signed on the 28th of August, it bore date as of the day of the riginal agreement the 18th. As only a month's employment was Contemplated, unless an extension was afterwards required and agreed on, and as the instrument was not under seal. - and verbal agreements and understandings could therefore be considered in the interpretation of its provisions, I was not perhaps as Careful as I might otherwise have been in revising its date. The Sakiang left this port early on the 29th of August, and returned on the evening of the 21st of September, and early on the next morning was delivered into the possession of her Captain. -

Under the impression that a fair allowance for coaling would fall short of the unexpired term of one month between the departure and return of the vessel, I assumed that no question could arise as to the time she was in Government employ, and when advising You of my purpose to draw, stated the amount

L

of the proposed draft. - The Agents afterwards claimed, that more time had been occupied in Coaling, owing to the interruptions above referred to, than I had supposed possible; Had I been disposed to acquiesce in granting any additional pay, particularly in view of the Convention meanwhile entered into, having amply provided the necessary funds, I would have feared to do so, as when the draft came to hand, it might be found, that the Department had acted on the despatch already forwarded, and given direction for the payment of the precise amount named, and difficulty might therefore arise in meeting the draft, in the absence of any explanations of the increase, or in advance of their Consideration. -

The steamer Takiang was almost entirely owned by Citizens of the United States, and their Agents for that reason were inclined to accept of a more moderate sum when chartered for the Government, particularly as all the American Merchants in Japan were Solicitous that our flag should be displayed at Simonoseki.

For the reasons above stated the President

may

Kanagawa January 17th 1865.

To the Honorable Wm H. Seward
Secretary of State
To the Honorable Gideon Welles
Secretary of the Navy
Washington

Gentlemen.

Thirty days sight acceptance waived. You or either of You will please pay to Messrs Olyphant & Co Shanghae (China) or Order the Sum of Nine thousand five hundred ($9500) Dollars gold coin of the United States being the amount agreed to be paid for Charter of the Steamer "Takiang" employed as part of the allied Force engaged in the operations against the batteries of the Prince of Satsuma in the Straits of Simonoseki - Said Steamer having been Commissioned as a Tender of the United States Ship Sacramento" and placed under the Command of Ensign Ledyard Dearing - according to the terms of the said Charter - a Counterpart of which is hereto attached.

Signed

Signed Robt H. Pruyn
Minister Resident of the United States
in Japan
Signed Cicero Price Captain U.S. Navy.

Note) Copy of Convention of Yokohama
formed Enclosure No. 1. of despatch No. 64
Dated October 28th 1864.-

Kanagawa January 17th 1865

The Honorable Gideon Welles.
Secretary of the Navy will please pay to
the Honorable Wm H. Seward Secretary of
State, in reimbursement of payment
made out of funds belonging to the
State Department in Charge of the
United States Legation in Japan, the Sum
of one thousand nine hundred thirty three 40/100
(1933 40/100) Dollars Gold Coin of the United States,
being one thousand eight hundred forty eight
(1848) Dollars Mexican Currency at the
present Mint Valuation of $1.04622 US
Gold Coin per Mexican Dollar — as per
receipted bill attached hereto for Coals
used by the Steamer "Takiang" chartered

he

by the Undersigned as tender to the United States Ship Jamestown; and which under the Command of Enqr Lieut Pearson of that Ship took part in the recent Allied operations against the batteries of the Prince of Chokoku in the Straits of Simonoseki.

Robt. H. Pruyn

Minister Resident of the

United States in Japan

Lieut Price Capt. U.S.N.

Duplicate

Kanagawa January 17th 1865

The Honorable Gideon Welles Secretary of the Navy will please pay to the Honorable Wm H Seward Secretary of State, in reimbursement of payment made out of funds belonging to the State Department in charge of the United States Legations in Japan, the sum of one thousand nine hundred thirty three 60/100 (1933 60/) Dollars gold coin of the United States being one thousand eight hundred forty eight (1848) Dollars Mexican currency at the present Mint Valuation of $1.0462 US gold coin for Mexican dollar - as per receipted bill attached hereto for Coals used by the Steamer "Takiang" chartered by

by the Undersigned as tender to the United States Ship Jamestown; and which under the Command of Ensign Fred Pearson of that ship took part in the recent allied operations against the batteries of the Prince of Choshu in the Straits of Simonoseki.

Robt. H. Pruyn
Minister Resident of the
United States
in Japan

Vice Price Capt. U.S.N.

Original formed Enclosure No. 2 of despatch
No. 3. of January 17th 1865. sent by the
English Mail of this day.

may be inclined to admit the claim for the additional $1000, a little more than one half of the sum first asked. I enclose No 1. Copy of draft given, and also No 2 a bill by Captain Price and myself on the Navy Department for the sum advanced by me out of the funds to the credit of a special account; in which I have charged myself with the several indemnities paid by the Japanese Government, or I have heretofore advised You; and which You may desire to have, if the Navy and not the State Department is the one with which the accounts are required to be adjusted. No 1 No 2

I wish in view of our great National expenditure my sense of duty had permitted me to forego this Charter; but I am sure the President will not condemn it, most certainly not, if I have succeeded in making him clearly and fully understand the then situation of affairs.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

Robt. H. Pruyn

Minister Resident in Japan.

Mr Walker

Office U. S. Military Telegraph,

WAR DEPARTMENT.

The following Telegram received at Washington, 8:30 P. M. April 6 1865

From San Francisco April 3 1865

Hon Wm H Seward

Number Five Legation of United States in Japan Yeddo Jany 31st eighteen sixty five (1865)

One of the guns lost, has not sailed I hope immediate Clearance will be granted as no unsettled difficulties exist between Japan & any treaty power I have the honor to be Sir Your Obedient Servant

Robt H Pruyn

Minister resident in Japan

Orvcol 1930 fd 1818

(11) Rec'd 6. Mar. Ans. Charles
Extract. Yokohama
See next page January 20. 1865

My Dear Sir

I fear it will be impossible to obtain a photographic likeness. Recently foreigners who have been known to visit Japan and the Tycoon myself. When a Minister has an audience, he is only allowed to bring one of his suite to the room in which the audience is held. You will see it is very unlikely that an artist will be permitted to come near the Tycoon. There is a Japanese in this town who has taken some fine photographs. The same objection would not be made to him perhaps, though when the Tycoon goes out, which does not often happen, the streets are cleared

Hon. W. H. Seward
Washington.

abandoned & the upper windows
of every house sealed up. I will
make the attempt.

Begin I believe the President
would have permitted the Tycoon
to leave Yedo but it was then thought
it was advisable to set an example
to Great Britain. Otherwise Diomeda
might have been kept more in
debtors. I should have acted
after conference with my colleagues
The Mexico case is now pro-
vided for by the Convention
I have advised the owners
they must now look to our
Govt. The case is not a very
strong one. The vessel is found
wherever wherever there is
trouble in Japan. Mr Consul
at Nagasaki has a Complaint
pending under by the Master of
that Port that the Prize custom
Steamer had fired on to a

small Port in our land not
far distant — it was daily
expected to hear. When I have
said the owners an opportunity
of explanation I will send a
despatch

The Japanese have punished
British Steamer since the
affair at Simonaki & the
Ship of the Admiral is now
lying beside the Flag Ship of
the French admiral undergoing
repair by French Engineers
there can certainly be no
cause for withholding this
Steamer any longer. The
British officers are firing on
Shimoda also on Country Packets
& other Branches of the Mili-
tary art. And a brisk trade
in Belgian, Prussian & English
Rifles is in progress

I regret that Sumner has
been a necessity to stop
the vessel, so long a time
Elapsed & Some induced
me have friends here who
think even on ordinary
national heritage should
the last has shown no de
but I think on national
must not gather by it
arrival, Etc

We expect on Monday
to hear the result of the
Election which we do not
fear to of Some disasters
by Grant & Sherman as
which we hope

With my most fervent
wishes for national Success
& upon your health and
happiness

I am very faithfully
& Obedient Servt

W. H. Ramsay

227 April

No. 5.

Mr. Chatter

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa January 21 1865

Telegram.

Sir,

If the gunboat has not sailed, I hope immediate clearance will be granted, as no unsettled difficulties exist between Japan and any Treaty Power.

I have the honor to be Sir
Your obedient servant

Robt. H. Pruyn
Minister Resident in Japan

The Honorable
Wm H Seward.
Secretary of State
Washington

No 223 April

Mr Chilton

No. 6.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa January 21. 1865.

Telegram.

Sir,

One of the murderers of the British Officers and two accomplices have been arrested and publicly executed at this place.

I have the honor to be Sir
Your most obedient Servant
Robt. H. Pruyn
Minister Resident in Japan.

The Honorable
Wm H. Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

Rec. 27 April

No. 7.

Mr Chilton

Legation of the United States in Japan.
Kanagawa January 21. 1863.

Sir,

Under the provisions of the various Treaties with Japan, Citizens and Subjects of the Several Powers have been assigned land subject to an annual rent payable to the Government without the payment of any sum by way of purchase money. - When land was of merely a nominal value, this was productive of no mischief; but this Settlement has increased with such rapidity - and the improvements are now of so substantial a character as to have caused a great rise in property. The poorest lots in the Settlement have been held at from $4000 to $5000 each; and lots in more favorable Situations have increased more than tenfold in value. Since I have been

The Honorable
Wm H. Seward.
Secretary of State
Washington.

(11)

in Japan, so that the present annual rental may be regarded as fully equal to the price asked for lots on my arrival. It is obvious that a strong temptation is thus offered to adventurers in China and elsewhere to come to Japan, demand a lot, realize a handsome profit and then leave the Country for newcomers to repeat the operations.

Another difficulty has arisen from claims being preferred that an assignment of land should be made to the Powers with whom Treaties have more recently been made for their subjects in the same proportion as already granted to those first on the ground.

My Colleagues and myself have desired to remedy as far as possible those evils and to guard against speculation in land, (as heretofore), to be acquired from the Government; With that view we have entered into an agreement of which I
p.1 enclose N° 1. a copy (printed), to which we have asked the assent of the Governments and which they have promised to give as soon as they shall hear from the

Governments

Governor of the other Ports. We also succeeded in making an agreement with the Japanese Government of which I send Copy No 2 No 2 for the enlargement and improvement of this Settlement and for the Sale of the leases of the Lands to be assigned to foreigners at public auctions at a minimum price to be fixed by the Consuls, which I need not describe in detail as it will sufficiently explain itself. - Our object in providing for public rides & walks to encourage excursions in directions and to an extent where foreigners would not be exposed to collisions with Japanese, but would have exercise and pleasant rides on safer and better roads. I also enclose No 3 approval of agreement No 3

The block of land set apart for the Consulates forms part of the site where Commodore Perry's Treaty was concluded.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant

Robt. H. Pruyn
Minister Resident in Japan.

Kanagawa January 21. 1865.

Robt. H. Pruyn

Minister Resident

No. 7.

2 Enclosures

Received.

Land - and improvement at Yokohama.

Memorandum.

In reference to future allotments of land at the open Ports.

It being desirable in the common interest to agree and determine upon some plan for the appropriation of all such land as may be required to enlarge the limits of the existing foreign settlement at Yokohama, as also at the other open ports, in such manner as shall be equitable and fair to all, without favour or distinction of nationalities, and in order to put such plan in a clear and practical shape, the following bases have been accepted and approved by the undersigned.

1.—All land hereafter to be acquired by the filling-in of the swamp at Yokohama, or recovered from the sea at Nagasaki and Hakodadi, shall be demarcated by the Consuls in concert, and in such portions as the requirements of trade may from time to time suggest, at an upset price to be regulated by the market value of land. This price to be set upon each lot by the said Consuls in common accord. If they do not agree, then the upset price to be determined by vote of the majority.

2.—These lots to be first offered to all those subjects or Treaty Powers who shall be at the time domiciled, and who, for legitimate purposes of Trade and not for traffic in land, or as mere investments, shall have registered their names at their respective Consulates, and such lot to be assigned in the order of date of registry, irrespective of nationality.

3.—Any of these lots, if not accepted at the rate fixed, to be then put up to auction, with a public notice, of at least 15 days, and particulars as to situation, dimensions and upset price. If this price should not be offered, the lots to be withdrawn from the sale and reserved for subsequent sale or appropriation.

4.—The Title-deeds to be issued on the requisition of the Consuls of Treaty Powers by the Governor of the Port, and countersigned by the Consul of the nation to which the householder belongs.

5.—The proceeds of any such sales shall constitute a municipal fund, under such conditions as the Consuls may conjointly agree upon.

These rules to apply to any new extension of land that may be obtained in any other direction, except that when the Japanese Government will not be indemnified for the expense of the improvements by rent on land before valueless one half the proceeds derived from the sale thereof shall be paid to said Government, and the remaining half retained for said municipal fund, and when the Japanese shall be dispossessed of any land a reasonable compensation will be paid to cover the expense of the removal of their buildings to some other locality, and no allotment of land to any foreigner for private use or advantage shall be required or sanctioned by the Consuls, and a communication to be made to the Government to this effect.

For public purposes the undersigned have already, in their memorandum of the 22nd of July 1864, formally disclaimed and renounced any title to exclusive advantage whatever, in respect to concessions of land or territory, either in the open ports, or elsewhere in Japan, as whatever is granted to one may, with equal right and justice, be claimed by all in virtue of the most favored nation clause in all existing treaties. It is to be hoped that the Tycoon's Government, fully advised of this, will, in their own interest, avoid making exceptional grants of land to any one nation, Minister or Consul, or other authority, or without reference to the rest, and to the equal rights of all.

Finally all past experience in China and Japan having shown that any appropriation of land or concessions to distinct nationalities is a fertile source of trouble and a great disadvantage in the end to all, raising questions of diverse jurisdiction for municipal purposes, distinct bodies of police, and tending to produce conflicts of jurisdiction, increased expense and imperfect results in order and security, besides perpetuating the mischievous error that the interests of different nations in Japan are distinct, and may be promoted at each others' expense, whereas in truth they are identical and are best promoted by union and common action, the undersigned have determined to make an official representation, by a Note Identique to the Government of the Tycoon, suggesting that upon no other bases should land be allocated for the occupation of Foreigners, at any open port in Japan, and pledging themselves to uphold this arrangement as the only one consistent with equity and the best interests of all the Treaty Powers without distinction.

Yokohama, December 3, 1864.

signed Robt H Pruyn
Minister Resident of the United States in Japan

(Signed) Rutherford Alcock
H.B.M. Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in Japan

" Leon Roches
Minister Plenipotentiary of H.M. the Emperor of the French in Japan

" Dedeuff von Polsbroek
U.N.M. Consul General & Political agent in Japan.

Enclosure No. 1
with despatch No. 7.
Dated January 21. 1865.

Memorandum.

Certain proposals for the enlargement of the Settlement at Yokohama and other public objects connected therewith, having been discussed and generally agreed upon by the Undersigned Foreign Representatives on the one part, and Shibata Hiuga no Kami and Shirashi Shimosa no-Kami on the other, on the 8th September, 24th of October and 5th of the present month, as recorded in minutes of each signed by the aforesaid Representatives, It has now been resolved to put on record in a clear and practical shape, the bases and conditions of such improvements, extension and public works, as now finally agreed upon, to which the signatures of the said Foreign Representatives and Japanese Commissioners shall be appended for the ratification of the Government of the Tycoon at Yedo within five days from the date of these presents.

It has accordingly been agreed and resolved as follows:—

1st.—An allotment of ground already marked out on the other side of the canal giving a circuit of one English mile (eighteen Japanese cho) to be made and designated in perpetuity for a parade and exercise ground for all nations, also for a Race-course for the Foreign Community. The ground being now a marsh, to be filled up by the Japanese Government at their own expense, and as it is for common occupation both by Japanese and Foreigners as a place of exercise, no rental to be claimed for the same, with exception of the outside circle destined for a Race Course, for which rent shall be paid at a rate hereafter to be fixed.

2nd.—A site and temporary huts having been provided for naval, military and Civil Small-pox patients of all nations—it is understood that an addition of either one or two huts being essential to complete the accommodation, these shall be put up by the Japanese Government in the first instance, at the requisition of the Foreign Consuls to avoid delay, on the latter undertaking to repay the cost of erection.

3rd.—A further extension within the limits already defined of the ground for a Cemetery for all nations to be granted, contiguous with that already so appropriated on the joint application of the Consuls.

4th.—A site having been allotted by the sea-shore for the building of abattoirs, &c., necessary to relieve the settlement of a great nuisance, unsightly alike to Japanese and Foreigners, and prejudicial to health it has now been agreed that the necessary buildings according to plans already furnished, shall be erected without delay by the Japanese Government, to be let under the control of the Foreign Consuls only to such butchers as they shall duly license;—the said butchers to rent the premises when completed, paying a yearly rental of ten per cent upon the cost of erection. But it is distinctly understood that the total cost shall not exceed about $ 10,000, a little more or less, the exact amount to be settled with the Consuls.

5th—The whole of the swamp on this side of the canal to be filled up by the Japanese Government and at their expense. When this is effected, the Kosakimachi, now situated in the midst, to be removed to the end furthest from the Foreign settlement. In the event of fire and the burning down of this establishment before the completion of this work, it is agreed that it shall not be rebuilt on the present site.

Of this swamp ground, when filled up, the Japanese Government shall reserve for Foreign occupation, to be actually allotted to them from time to time, in such portions as may be required on the joint requisition of the Consuls, the space lying between the Otamachi and the canal called Okagawa, on a line with the street between the Custom-house and the Consular lot as marked in red in the plan annexed No. 1; the proceeds arising from such disposal to be added to a Municipal fund, which shall be employed for the making a drainage of roads, &c., and keeping them in a state of repair. It is understood that rent shall be paid as for all other allotments within the Foreign Settlement.

6.—The location and site now being cleared and actually assigned for Consular residences and offices marked No 2. in the annexed plan, the same to be cleared completely of all buildings or tenements and delivered over to the Consuls for appropriation to such uses and divided as heretofore agreed upon by the Consuls among themselves, without further intervention of the Japanese Authorities, rental being paid by the respective tenants as in other portions of the Foreign settlement.

7th.—The whole of the ground extending from the Custom-house Hatoba along the sea-front to the lot recently assigned to the French at Benting and backward to the Main street, (sec. No. 3 in plan annexed); to be held available for Foreign occupation and appropriated at public sale open to competition by Foreigners and Japanese in such proportions or quantity as from time to time may be found expedient.

The Japanese Government undertakes when these appropriations are in progress, to extend the present Bund of the Foreign settlement, from the Custom-house Hatoba to the French lot at Benteng. Towards the expense of this work already agreed upon in former conferences of the 8th Sept., and 24th Oct., and recorded in the memoranda before mentioned, of one-half the proceeds of sales or prices paid for right of location in this new extension of settlement along the seaside (after paying expenses and indemnities for loss or removal of the present Japanese tenants), to be paid to the Governor of Kanagawa so long as the whole expense shall not have been reimbursed according to verified estimates and contracts for the work done. It is understood that the rent shall be paid the same as for all other allotments.

8th.—As the Ministers of the Treaty powers are not at present enabled to resume their residence at Yedo, it may be necessary to make provision for the temporary location of one or more at Yokohama. With this object in view, the French and Dutch Representatives having already locations assigned to them at Benteng (as also the Prussian Consul) it is expressly agreed and provided that the remaining portion of the sea-front of Benteng extending from the Prussian lot to the Western corner and marked No 4. in the plan annexed, shall be reserved for the Ministers or Diplomatic Representatives of Great Britain and the United States, and if not immediately required, shall not be otherwise appropriated for any use except as at present occupied, without reference to them, and their consent obtained; the size of this location to be settled afterwards, between the Japanese Government and the Representatives of the above named two nations.

9th.—An adequate site for a Club-house

for the United Service of all nations having been promised, either on the site of the buildings now occupied by the British Commissariat, marked No 5. in the plan annexed, or in its close vicinity, it is agreed that quick possession shall be secured, and the Trustees of the Club shall pay the estimated value of any buildings thereon or pay all the expenses of their removal by the owners, and be subject to rental in like manner as all other Foreigners holding land.

10th.—A conveniently situated Market being a great desideratum for Japanese for the sale of provisions it is agreed that the open space now in use for that purpose, and marked No 6. in the annexed plan, shall be furthur enlarged and levelled, and at one extremity a series of stalls erected under a piazza or covered way for the sale of provisions.

11th.—As under the present state of affairs the Japanese Government desire Foreigners to ride on the Tokaido as little as possible, they undertake to make a good riding road for the exercise of Foreigners four or five miles in extent, winding round and through the Mississippi Valley, not less than twenty-two feet wide, to be made and kept in good order by the Japanese Government in accordance with the plans agreed upon, and already being put in execution under the direction and superintendence of Major Wray, a chief engineer officer.

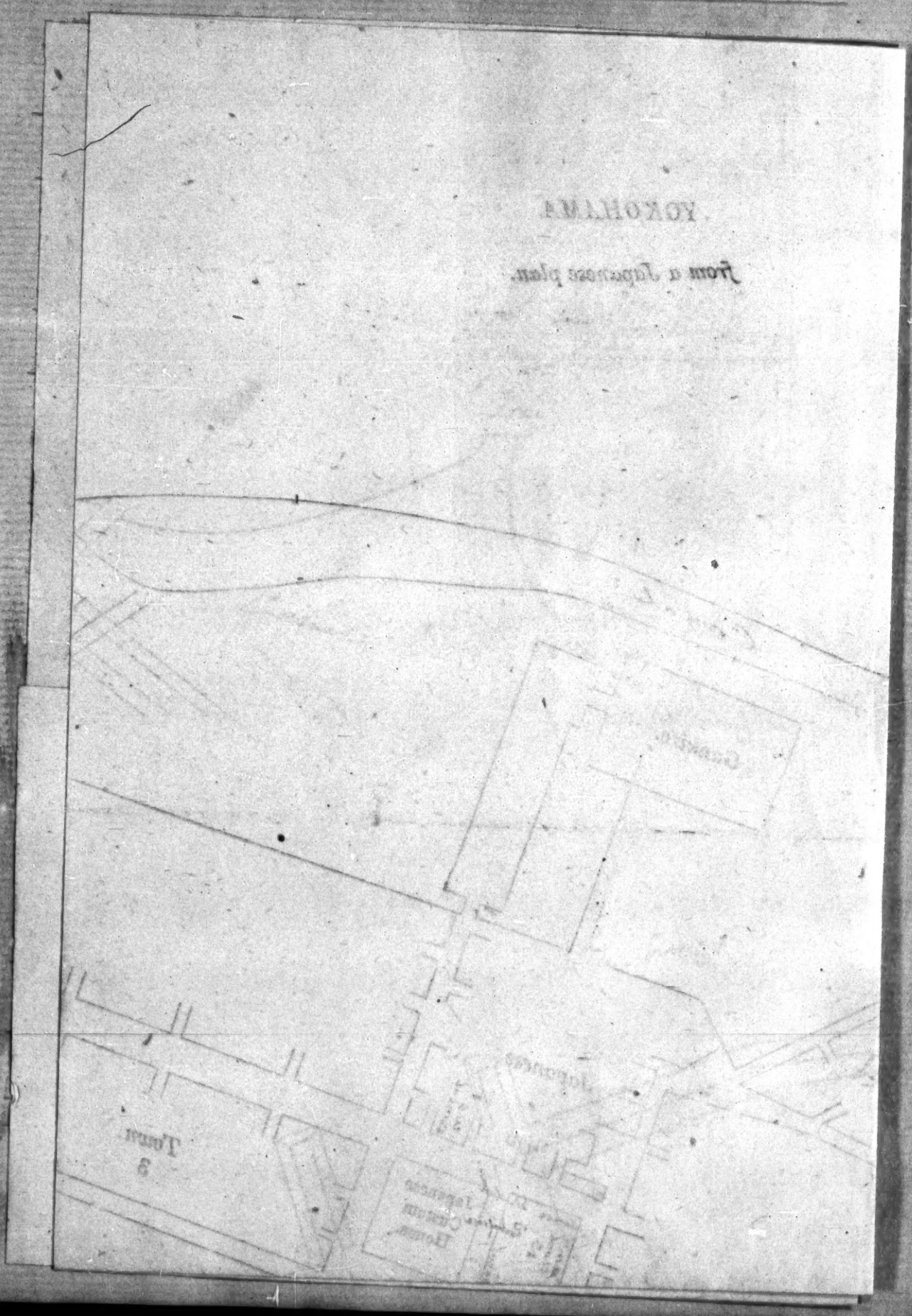
12th.—Finally in order to avoid all further discussion about the keeping of roads, drainage, cleaning of streets and other Municipal objects for which hitherto the Japanese local authorities have been held responsible in view of the high rental paid by all Foreign leaseholders, it has been agreed that these objects shall henceforth be secured by the Foreign Land-renters themselves, and towards the expenses that must be incurred annually there shall be a deduction of 20 % from the yearly rent paid by all lands leased to foreigners, to be paid into a Municipal fund.

In witness whereof we the undersigned Foreign Representatives and Japanese Commissioners duly empowered to that effect, hereto set our hands and seals this 19th day of December 1864.

Done in Quintuplicate.

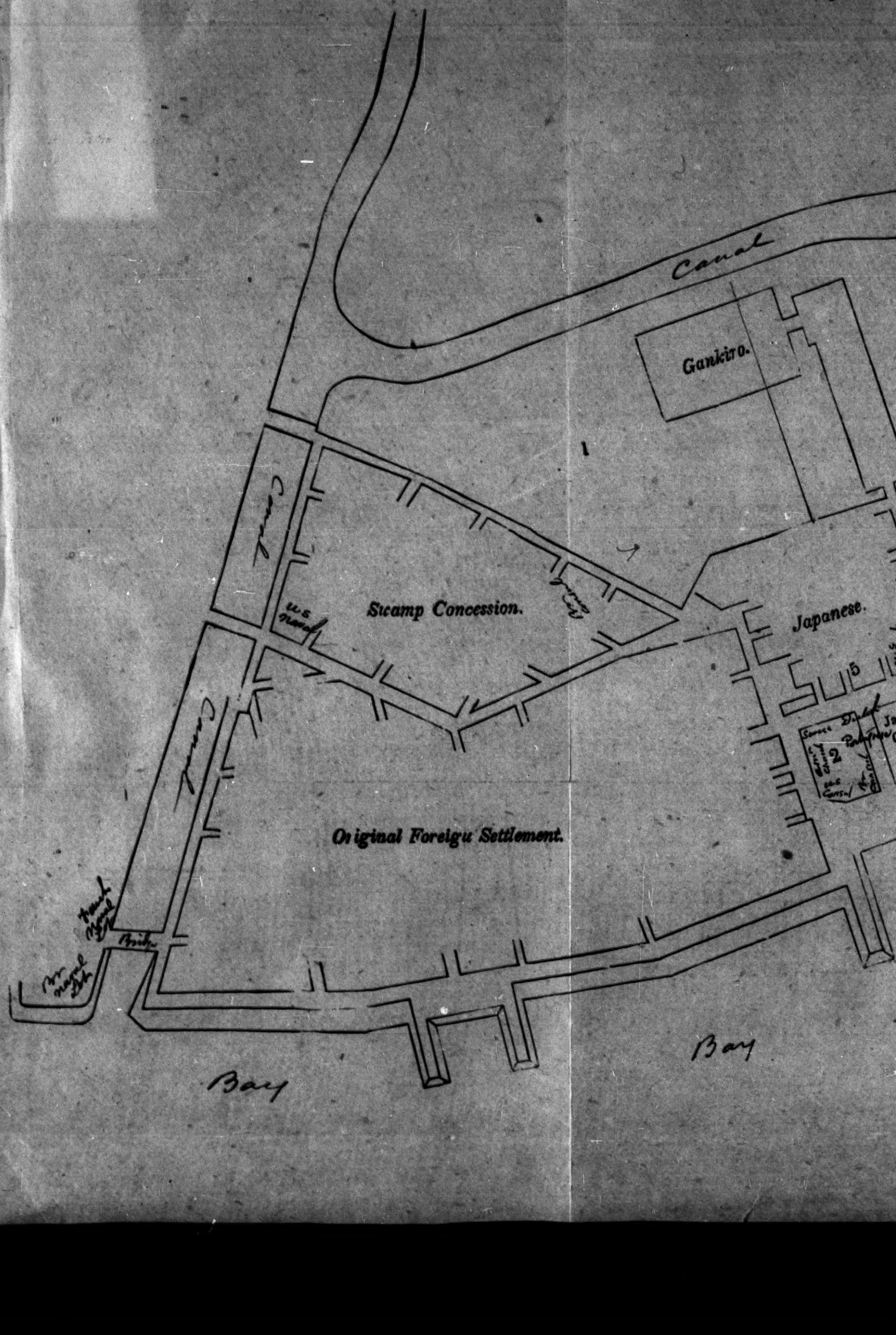
signed/ Robert H. Pruyn
Minister Resident of the United States
in Japan
" Rutherford Alcock
H.B.M. Envoy Extraordinary and
Minister Plenipotentiary in Japan
" Leon Roches
Minister Plenipotentiary of H. M. the

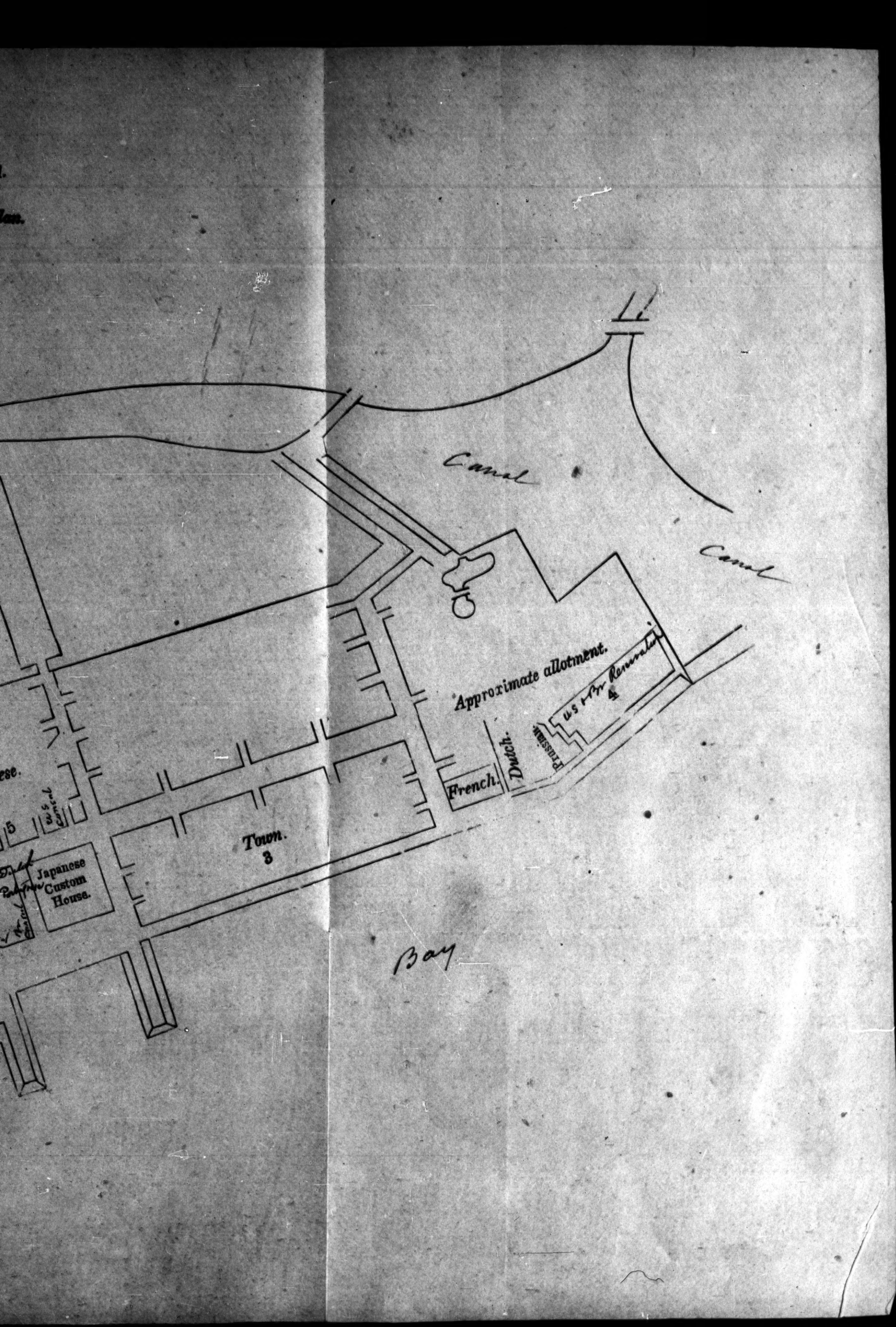
" Emperor of the Tenchi in Japan.
" Dr Dispatch van Polsbroek
Hr Ml Counsel general and Political
Agent in Japan.-
" Sibata Hiuga no Kami
" Sirasi Simoza no Kami



YOKOHAMA.

from a Japanese plan.




Canal
Canal
Approximate allotment.
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4
Prussian
Dutch.
French.
Town.
3
Japanese
Custom
House.
Bay

U.S. Legation in Japan

Enclosure No. 2.
with despatch No. 7.
Dated January 21. 1865.

Map of Yokohama
attached.

To His Excellency
Robert H. Pruyn
Minister Resident
of the United States of America
&c &c &c

We have to state that Sibata Hinga no kami and Inaiki Simota no kami having under our instructions agreed with You about land for foreign Settlement, we approve the same and will exchange ratifications accordingly

With respect and esteem
the 23d day of the 11th month of the
1st Year of Genji (21st December 1864)

Aprd Mikuno Idumi no kami
" Abe Bungo no kami
" Sumo Iyaba no kami

Official Rec. April

Mr Colquhoun

Hongkong Jany 27. 65

My Dear Sir

We must have a Commissary to be found of sufficient strength to finally triumph our traitors at home and those abroad who have been eager for our national humiliation or ruin

I enclose an article from the London Chronicle which although may have escaped your notice is relative to joint operations in Japan which will show that G.B. estimates highly the naval aid of the U.S. The

Hon W.H. Seward

&c &c &c

memorandum which a
Companies the late Conv
tion, which was signed
by the Rep.s of the Four
Powers, was drawn by my
& was designed for the Ob
ject, in case the indemnity s
paid, that the full Sum of
Cash Bounty by way of pre
mium for the Fishing with a
Wyoming or Monitor, as cou
in fact the circuit to our Fle
in the case of the Newfou
2. Our Fishing Expences a
would be largely increas
if France insisted on a
Equality with England
the Foundry and Sal
part. The real Suppo
of the W.s was with th
other Powers more than
that of France neither
Brit.n or would Con

until hundred to turn
ictim as they die without
my Corporation — certainly
not against my Protest

I am officially made
the Corporation as to my
settling the questions which
may arise under the Con-
vention, because I feel sure
that from my acquaintance with
its history & the Corporation
of Va R. A, which I am sure
to have, our interests will be
amply secured

In the course of my
learning that the Jamboree
has been taken by the East
I shall leave here this
Spring, going by way of
Europe. I am now under
the medical treatment of
Peddler of the James and is
I suffer from piles. I am

enabled to adjust my [illegible]
which may enable me to [illegible]
with some able Physician
in my way home

I enjoy some of
a continuance of your
good will and attention
in Japan for a longer
period than has before been
enjoyed by any American
a private country

I remain Dear Sir truly & sincerely
Your ob. Sv.
Wm. H. Pauncefote

I hereby acknowledge an acquaintance with the members of the Mission and have—during my visit to Japan for different times had intercourse with the Emperor and the Ministers of State. Complaints have been made by the Lord Mayor of Hakodate against the Russian Consul for confining the Commander of a vessel under the flag which I then was to take him on to Hakodate

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer.

A Register is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the Far East and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

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JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO,

Published Tri-monthly, on the day of arrival of the Mails via Marseilles, about the 4th 14th, and 28th,

CONTAINS a Summary of General and Commercial News, Shipping Intelligence, &c., &c., from China, Japan, Siam, Philippines, Cochin-China, Borneo, Java, Singapore, and Penang. Leading articles and reports of all events in Europe and America, in connection with these places.

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Subscriptions received by the Agents of the "London and China Express," to be found in the last page.

OFFICE, 12, GEORGE-YARD, LOMBARD-STREET, CITY.

TO EDITORS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

We will be obliged by the Editors and Correspondents in the Far East giving the full title of our paper—"London and China Express," instead of "China Express."

The London & China Express.

LONDON, THURSDAY, NOV. 17, 1864.

THE OPENING OF THE INLAND SEA.

The journals and letters received by last mail fully confirm the information communicated by electric telegraph that the combined fleets of the European Powers had bombarded the castles and batteries by which Choshiu, Prince of Nangato, fancied he could bar the passage of the Straits of Simonoseki, and had landed and removed all his cannon, so that his long-vaunted power is at once and for ever disposed of. But the detailed accounts are of a much more gratifying nature than the telegrams gave us reason to hope for. The task of humbling this obstinate Daimio is thoroughly finished. He has signed a convention binding himself to pay any indemnity, and to submit to any conditions the so lately despised "foreigners" may choose to impose. But that which is the most satisfactory feature of the various accounts is that it is clear Choshiu stands alone. The batteries opposite his were silent, and thus the Allied fleets had only those on the Northern side to contend with. The Prince of Kokara, who rules on the Southern coast, refused to have anything to do with the mad schemes of his neighbour on the other side of the channel. The French have a proverb of deep meaning, to the effect that nothing is so irresistible as success. We might have been inclined to express doubts as to the prudence of the policy that has been adopted, and to ask whether our intercourse with Japan is to be annually marked by one of those "little wars" which our highest military authority declared to be equally harassing to and unworthy of England. In the present instance, it is clear that what has occurred has been done by the concert of all the European Powers, and also—no slight point, perhaps—with the co-operation of the United States. That fact alone might well disarm censure. But the events we are likewise enabled to lay before the reader in our present number create a suspicion that this combined action of the Powers was based on motives and considerations of which we can but guess the urgency and value. Choshiu is revealed to us as actually—almost at the very moment of the affair in the Straits—engaged in a most murderous rebellion against his Sovereigns—for so we must rank both the Tycoon and the Mikado. We find him sending a large army, reckoned by thousands, accompanied by artillery, to seize on the person of the most venerated of the two, the Mikado, or Spiritual Sovereign. Under such circumstances the Allies would be entitled to consider the Tycoon absolved from any blame that he could do nothing to carry into execution the convention so recently agreed on in Paris. The quicker way, and the way altogether most palatable to everybody but Choshiu himself, was for the Allies to take this arch-rebel and general disturber of the peace into their own hands. This has been done with the success that might have been expected, with a cordial good understanding not only between the Allies, but, as we trust, with the Tycoon. We shall look to find the matter settled amidst general rejoicing; the person not least jubilant being Admiral Kuper, who has, by his services in Japan, well deserved to gain laurels that will pass unchallenged either by the politician or the humanitarian.

the colonies," and this complaint found exponents among the Statists; and yet the colonies are not allowed to relieve themselves from this stigma. In 1862 we perceive £24,000 on the Ceylon estimates for contribution towards military expenditure; and again, in 1863, they are saddled with an increased charge for what they do not require, and the sum of £30,000, besides several items of house rent and travelling allowances, was claimed by the Home Government from the colony for the military. Although the Legislative Council refused to vote the supply, the Secretary for the Colonies has insisted on its payment, thus setting the Legislature at defiance. We cannot wonder at the indignation of the

Since the issue of that note M. Aubaret has quitted the naval for the diplomatic service, and, as is well known, has been appointed Consul and Charge d'Affaires at Bangkok, and was entrusted with the negotiation of the questions between the Courts of Paris and Hué. It is quite natural that a party, from patriotic feelings, should strongly object to the cession of the provinces in question, as placing France in the position of retracting the steps she has taken; and, of course, this party does not take into account the fact that the expedition was undertaken on the clearly expressed condition—nay, promise, to the Legislature and the French nation—that not an inch of territory should be acquired. It may be said that such professions are constantly made and as constantly violated; but, in this instance, France was dead against the enterprise except for the punishment of those who had murdered the missionaries, and, therefore, the promise was a sacred one; but, nevertheless, like some others, was grossly violated.

Nor is it at all surprising that those who thought with M. Aubaret in 1863 should be angry with him for his apparent inconsistency, but they forget that while they have stayed at home nursing their old opinions, he has seen much more of the Annamites and the Siamese, and is, perhaps, a wiser man than when he penned the note quoted from above. Those who know anything of what has been the course of commerce at Saigon since the French occupation will fully corroborate M. Aubaret's opinions respecting the power of the Annamite authorities over the trade of the country, and it is not likely that those opinions have undergone any change since his return to the East; but he may, from his more extended experience, have arrived at this conclusion, that the Annamites will never rest under the loss of the provinces in question, and that France, to secure her authority, would have to embark in a long, tiresome, and unpopular war, in a climate terribly fatal to Europeans; and that during its continuance, if not even after its termination, the stream of trade to Saigon would be dammed at the source, and that, therefore, it would be far wiser to please the Annamites by giving them back their provinces, and thus open up the only possible chance of Saigon becoming the "first entrepot in the East," as it has already been called a hundred times by the patriotic French party, or even of its trade recovering the terrible diminution which has been the result of the French occupation. The French have something more yet to do besides diplomatic and administrative work before Saigon rivals Hong Kong, Shanghai, or Singapore.

Literature.

The coming winter is evidently to be a season of extraordinary activity in the publishing world. Every class of literature is amply represented in the lists of forthcoming works. With reference to those more particularly connected with China and the East, we are promised a personal narrative of a visit to parts of Asia of some of which we have had no account from a European wanderer since the days of Marco Polo. Mr. Murray, of Albemarle-street, will issue almost immediately *Travels in Central Asia;* being the adventures of Arminius Vambéry, member of the Hungarian Academy of Pesth, by whom he was despatched on a scientific mission, in the course of which, disguised as a dervish, he succeeded last year in penetrating across the Turkoman desert on the eastern shore of the Caspian, to Khiva, Bokhara, and Samarcand. Two other works of deep interest, to issue from the same publisher, are *The Siberian Overland Route from Peking to St. Petersburg*, and *The British Army in North China and Japan.* The first-named is the journal of Mr. Alexander Michie, during his traverse of the new route from the Far East, across the deserts and steppes of Mongolia, Tartary, Siberia, &c. The other is from the pen of Dr. D. F. Rennie, than whom it would be difficult to find a man more competent to inform us on the subject named in his title-page. Dr. Rennie, from being on the medical staff of the British army in China, was selected to be attached in his professional capacity to the Embassy at Peking. He had so gained the confidence of the late Earl of Elgin that his lordship applied for his favourite medical adviser to be allowed to follow him to Calcutta. The application, however, was not early enough, for Dr. Rennie found when he arrived in India that his distinguished friend had already succumbed under the double exhaustion of the climate and the exactions of office.

In Theology, the influence exercised by the spirit of inquiry and discussion called forth by "Essays and Reviews" and the

Rec.d 27 April

No. 8.

Mr Pruyn

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa January 27. 1865.

Sir,

I hope to be able in April to avail myself of the leave of absence granted to me in Your despatch No 73. of July 7th 1863.

Should the President feel disposed to confide to me the representations of the United States in the discussion and decision of the questions by and between the Governments with which Japan recently entered into Conventions, arising under the same, on my way through Europe, I would suggest that duplicate instructions be sent for me under cover to our Ministers at London and Rome.

It is probable that the Taicoon will decide before I leave whether he will prefer to tender a port or to pay

The Honorable
Wm H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

&c

the money for indemnity and expenses. My impression is that he will not be disposed to open another port; though it is possible Simonoseki after being occupied as Imperial territory may be opened to trade. - I have the statistics of the Commerce of that port, which show a very large trade. And I shall meanwhile endeavor to obtain information as to the trade of other ports favorably located.

It may not be improper for me to remark that I think even should a port be tendered that a portion of the indemnity agreed to be paid should be exacted.

The Governor for Foreign Affairs have replied to a note which I directed Mr Portman to write asking information as to the progress of the Expedition against Choshu that some of them would come to this place at an early day to make a detailed statement on the subject.

The forces of the Daimios of Kiushiu gathered to subdue Choshu are stationed at Kokura on the Southside of the Straits. &c.

Pliphon.

Niphon Daimios are assembled near Kioto; the troops of the Taicoon, 16000 of whom are armed with rifles and uniformed and equipped in foreign style are Commanded by the Prince of Matsmai of the Island of Yello; - the whole Army is Commanded by the Prince of Owari of the Imperial family. - Chosiu will not resist. - It is difficult to learn what has transpired as rather to form a Correct judgment in Consequence of conflicting statements. I am inclined to believe however that Mori Daizen Prince of Chosiu has abdicated and assumed as is ulual in such cases the garb and character of a priest. - One of his Ministers descendant of a follower of Taico Sama has taken the direction of affairs - and the heads of Chosiu's Chief Minister and of five of his Chief retainers have been Successively sent to Owari; who shakes his head and keeps Silence thereby intimating that atonement has not yet been made for the Sacrilegious attempt of Chosiu to seize the Sacred person of the Mikado. - This is the

Cause

Cause assigned to the Japanese for the
Outlaw against Choshu, — not his hostility
to foreigners. —

The best opinion I can form
of the probable result is that Choshu
will be shorn of a part of his territories,
probably the province of Suwo; — and that
as his submission has been prompt and
his humiliation deep, the province of
Nagato may be ultimately left to his
Son, now called Nagato, who though
at present like his father in priestly garb
may be spared to represent this ancient
House — older than the family of the
Taicoon, and before the rise of his dynasty
supreme in seven Provinces of the Mikado's
Empire.

This is said to be the policy
of the powerful Prince of Satsuma and
may be sustained by the other Daimios.
The magnitude of the preparations is to
great to warrant the belief that the
expedition will be abandoned without
large Sacrifice of territory and treasure
by the refractory Prince; — this induces

me

me to believe that it is intended to pay the indemnity and thus provide for it, and inclines me to recommend that in any event payment of a portion of it shall be required.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

Robt. H. Pruyn

Minister Resident in Japan.

Rec. May 12th

Mr Hilton

No 9

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa February 13. 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you, that I have received a letter from the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, in which they state, that they had determined not to send the Embassy to the Treaty Powers as previously announced.

In my despatch N. 57 of the 3rd September last I informed you that this Embassy would not go farther than Shanghai, the appointment having been made only for the purpose of gaining time by inducing the hostile party to believe that the Taicoon had not abandoned the hope of obtaining from the

The Honorable
Wm H. Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

Treaty

Treaty secures the concession of the closing of this port.

The letter of the Minister for Foreign Affairs is only of importance as another evidence of the increased strength of the Government.

I have the honor to be, Sir
Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant

Robt. W. Irving

Minister Resident in Japan.

Rec.d May 12th.

Mr Colton

No 10.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa March 7. 1865.

Sir,

The Steamer "Monitor" now called the "Fee Sang" having visited many ports in Japan not open to trade, and thus excited the alarm of the Japanese Government, causing complaints to be made both by the Government here and by the Governor of Nagasaki, I caused an examination to be instituted on her recent visit to this Port.

I enclose No. 1. copy letter Goroji to Mr Pruyn. No 1

No 2. Mr Pruyn to Goroji in reply. No 2

No 3. Mr Pruyn to Mr Consul Fisher No 3.

No 4. Mr Consul Fisher to Mr Pruyn in reply. No 4

No 5. Mr Consul Fisher to Mr Pruyn. No 5

The Honorable
Wm H. Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

transmitting

transmitting Copies of testimony (7 Sub Enclosures).

No. 6. Mr Pruyn to Soejo

No. 7. Soejo to Mr Pruyn in reply.

Mr Drake one of the owners refused to testify, maintaining that his statement covered the whole ground.

This is the Steamer which was fired on at Sukugawa in the dominions of Choshu in July 1864.

I have the honor to be, Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

Robt. H. Pruyn.

Minister Resident in Japan.

To His Excellency
Robert H. Pruyn.
Minister Resident of the United States
of America &c. &c. &c.

We recently received a letter from Ogasawara Sakyo no Daibu the Prince of the Province of Boodzen, a copy of which we enclose, to the effect that Subjects of Mori Daizen in a boat had been communicating with foreign vessels at anchor off Sanowura in the Province of Boodzen.

But Daizen, as You are aware, is a horrible rebel, and should the Subjects of the Treaty Powers have intercourse with him clandestinely, it may lead to great inconvenience and the good understanding between Your Country and our own be jeopardized, of which we are very apprehensive. - We therefore desire You to give a Communication to Your Ships in the Eastern Seas, to the effect that henceforth the Subjects of Your Country are prohibited from holding

unauthorized intercourse with the Subjects
of Daimio

Which we have to state with respect
and esteem:

The 24th day of the 12th month of the
1st Year of Genji (21 January 1865).

Signed / Mitsuno Idzumi no kami
Abe Bungo no kami
Iwa Iwaba no kami.

Andonne

Enclosure 1

Copy of a Communication from Yanawara Sakyo no Daibu

On the 19th day of the 9th month of the 1st year of Genji (19 October 1857) it has been witnessed that Subjects of Nagato in three boats came off to the foreign vessels at anchor of Yanomura within my jurisdiction and immediately returned.

On the 20th of the same month a flag of Nagato was flying on a small boat and some Subjects of Nagato there went in her onboard the foreign vessels at anchor off Yanomura and afterwards returned.

On the 21st of the same month some persons in two boats left Akamagaseki and went onboard a foreign vessel at anchor off Monjinomura; they had with them what looked like a white linen bag about 2 feet long - which they delivered. a little while after they returned they must have been Subjects of Daimio and the said foreign ships afterward left sailing Westward along the Coast under

my

my jurisdiction; - there were no foreign vessels left there then.

On the 18th of the 11th month (the 16th December 1864) a foreign vessel came to anchor off Monjinomura in Nagato. Some six or seven persons went on board of her and immediately returned and two foreigners carrying firearms then landed in a boat at Hatikenja at Akamagaseki.

Note. The said vessel first anchored off Maida &c when we sent off a boat to make enquiries, and it was ascertained that she was American.

On the 19th of the same month three or four persons supposed to have been subordinate officers of Nagato went onboard this American vessel anchored off Monjinomura, delivered a box there and returned.

(No date nor Signature)

N: 10.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa January 25. 1865.

Their Excellencies
the Ministers for Foreign Affairs
&c &c &c
Yedo.

I yesterday received Your letter of the 24th of the 12th month with Enclosure.

I regret that the communication from Ogasawara Sakyo no Daibu is not more explicit. - If he had described the appearance of the ships and stated whether they were steamers or Sailing vessels, enquiries might be instituted here and at Shanghae and Nagasaki, which might lead to the character and nationality being made known. - I have heard of no American vessel being near that locality, nor do I believe any of those described were American. - You are aware that several ships of the Combined Squadron have on different occasions been in that vicinity - and had Communication

mid

wich Officers of that Prince, and that a British Steamer disabled by striking on a rock opposite Simmonseki was assisted by Some of his Subjects. But I assure your Excellencies any attempt on the part of any American Ships to trade at that place, or any place other than the opened ports, shall be visited by the severe displeasure of my Government and I will not fail to cause Notice to be given both in Japan and in China, which will put a stop to such attempts if any be in Contemplation.

With respect and esteem

Signed Robt H. Pruyn.
Minister Resident of the United States
in Japan.

No 12.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa January 28. 1865.

Sir,

Mr. Walsh U.S. Vice Consul at Nagasaki has informed me that the American Steamer "Tee Tang" late the Monitor now in this port has at least on two occasions been at ports in Japan not open to trade — and that the Government of Nagasaki addressed him officially on the subject. — I have recently received a letter from the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, in which it is stated that a ship under the American flag (which I have reason to believe to be the same Steamer) has been at Simonoseki holding communication with the Subjects of Choshiu.

You will therefore examine strictly into the movements of said Steamer, taking the depositions of the Officers and crew and of Mr Drake one of the owners, if he feels disposed to make a statement under oath in relation

Relations to every visit the Steamer has made to any port or place in Japan not open to trade, and make report to me of the result of your examination

I am Sir
Your obedient Servant
Signed Robt H. Pruyn.
Minister Resident in Japan.

Geol Fisher Esq
US Consul
Kanagawa.

N. 28

Consulate of the United States of America
Kanagawa Japan January 2d. 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your despatch N. 12 of the 28th instant and to state that in pursuance of Your notification I have this day issued a procen summoning the officers and crew of the steamer "Teetang" to be and appear before me to take their depositions on Wednesday the 1st proximo at 10½ o'clock AM.

I have the honor to be &c.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Signed Geo. Fisher
U. S. Consul.

His Robert H. Pruyn Esq
US Minister Resident
in Japan.

No 32.

Consulate of the United States of America
Kanagawa Japan. February 6th 1885.

Sir.

Herewith You will please receive Copies of the testimony taken before me in the matter of the Complaint made against the Steamer "Fee Sang" and marked Enclosures No 1. 2. 3. 4 5 and 6; - also Copy of a letter received from M. H. S. Drake, who declines to make any further affidavit than he has already made in Shanghae. marked Enclosure No. 7.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Signed Geo. S. Fisher
US Consul.

To H.E. General Robert H. Pruyn
Minister Resident of the United States
in Japan.

Copy

Consulate of the U. S. of America
Kanagawa, Japan

On this 1st day of February A. D. 1865 personally came before me, the undersigned George S. Fisher Consul of the U. S. of America for Kanagawa and the dependencies thereof, William H. Lowry who being duly sworn on his oath, ~~&c.~~ deposes & says that he is the chief Engineer of the Am. Str. called the "Fee Pang" late "Monitor" - that he is 37 years of age, besides in New York & has been on the "Fee Pang since 21st December 1864 - that his first Voyage on her was from Shanghae to Nagasaki - that his boilers were leaking very badly all the time - that he worked four days on her boiler while in Nagasaki & during the passage to this Port was obliged to stop 2 or 3 times to make Repairs - that at Shimonosaki they were obliged to remain 2 or 3 days to make necessary repairs & that he was occupied night & day while there & since his arrival at this Port has been at work until yesterday in the same manner to repair flues in the boiler - Affiant

further

further States his machinery engines are particularly in good & that his boilers are now in a fair State - that the leakage of flues & Constant breaking down in Consequence of the same & was caused by former Neglect of the boiler - that he knows nothing in regard to her trading at any ports in Japan not open to trade

(Sgd.) W. H. Lowry

Subscribed to & Sworn
before me this 1st day
of February 1865

(Sgd.) Geo. I. Fisher
U. S. Consul

Copy

Hon. Geo. S. Fisher Kanagawa
U. S. Consul Feby 2d 1865
Kanagawa

Sir!

According to your request that I would make a Statement as agent of Str. Fee Sang and passenger on her voyage from Nagasaki to this port Stopping at Simonsaki: I have to submit the following. The said Steamer Stopped at Simonoseki for the purpose only of Repairing boilers and calking tubes.

Other than purchasing a few provisions neither myself nor any of the officers or Crew on the Steamer to my knowledge— Carried on any trade of any description with the Residents of the place. Neither were any goods Sold or bought and no goods were landed or received on board during our Stay at that port other than as above Stated. The Statements already made by the officers and Crew of said Steamer as to entering any ports in Japan not opened for trade, While owned in part by myself and Sailing under name of

Monitor

for Purposes of trade, agrees so entirely with anything that I could state, that it would be impossible for me to gain further information upon the Subject.

I trust that H. E. the American Minister and yourself will feel assured from the testimony already given that no violation of the Treaty has been made and that the object of the Steamer on entering the various ports was solely for the purposes set forth in the Statements made and Sworn to in your presence by the officers and crew attached to said Vessel.

I have the Honor to be

Your Obed. Servt.

(Sgd) H. K. Drake

Copy.

Consulate of the U. S. of America
Kanagawa Japan

On this 3d day of February A. D. 1865 personally came before me, the undersigned, George S. Fisher Consul of the U. S. of America for Kanagawa and the Dependencies there of C. J. M. Nichol who being duly sworn by me on his oath, States: that he is twenty eight years of age, was born in Hamburg and is now a resident of Nagasaki, Japan — that he was a passenger on board the American Steamer "Monitor" from Nagasaki to Hakodade in the month of May 1864 - and arrived at the latter Port about the first of June 1864 - that he returned by the same Steamer to Nagasaki about the 25th or 26th July 1864 - that en route to Hakodade the said Steamer stopped at no Port & made no anchorage until she arrived at the Straits of Sangai, not far from Hakodade - that he does not remember the date the Steamer left Hakodadi for Nagasaki but remembers when they reached the China Sea they encountered headwinds & sea and a heavy storm which threw the Steamer back but that by means of such Steam as they could make

& Sail

& Said they kept on their course - that after having been out several days the Steamer was obliged to put into harbor to find fuel that they went into a Port which he now knows as Fugigawa & which they reached in the evening that the same evening a Japanese boat came alongside of the Steamer And asked as what we wanted And a Japanese boy of Witness told them we were out of fuel & Wished Some Coals - they said they would tell the higher officers & went away & we stopped until the next morning - about four o'clock in the morning we were fired into with Solid Shot & affiant thinks by 6 - 12 and 18 pounders. The Captain immediately got up Such Steam as he could and we left as Soon As we Could get away - As soon as our Anchors was up they fired Small Arms at us but we got out of the way of these And fired back on them Shells from a 12 pdr. Gun we had on board And retired & With Sail & Steam reached the Island of Too-Sima, where we got Wood And from thence reached - Nagasaki, that Witness knows the Steamer had not over a ton of Coal on board When she reached

Fugigawa

Dukuzawa

Fugigawa and had had to burn planks
boards out of her births to get Steam
sufficient to reach that Port that the
Steamer was deeply loaded with Seaweed
and that he knows that neither the
Captain, Mr Drake the Owner who was
on board nor himself or any person on
board did any business or attempted to
trade either at Fugigawa or Tokuma
except to procure fuel for the use of
the Steamer and that they only put in
there because of distress and to enable
her to proceed on her voyage to Shanghai
via Nagasaki that affiant came up
from Nagasaki to this Port on her last
voyage here - that he came only as a
Passenger & has no interest in the Steamer
& has no Cargo on board of her and did
not have any when she left the Port
of Nagasaki - that the Steamer on her
voyage up stopped in the Inland Sea
about one mile from Shimonoseki -
that she stopped there for repairs and
did not discharge or receive any Cargo
there, that he did not go on Shore there -

That

that he does not know that any of the passengers went on Shore there – that he does some business for Mr. Drake in Nagasaki but did no business at Shimonoseki nor did Mr. Drake and is sure that if any trade or business had been done there, he must have known it & he is sure Mr. Drake did no business there of any kind whatever, he could not have done so without Affiant having some knowledge of the same – and that as soon as her repairs were made the Steamer came on to this Port reaching here the 27th of January last.

(Sgd.) C. P. M. Nichol

Subscribed & Sworn to
before me the day and
year first above Written

(Sgd) Geo. S. Fisher
U. S. Consul

Copy

Consulate of the U. S. of America
Kanagawa Japan

On this 1st day of February A.D. 1865
personally came before me, George S. Fisher
Consul of the United States of America
for Kanagawa and the dependencies
thereof, Charles Mc. Conlin who being
duly sworn on his oath according to
Law deposes & says that his Age is twenty
eight years - that his residence is Boston,
Massachusetts - that he is now Master
of the American Steamer Called the
"Fee Pang" and lately called the "Monitor"
that said vessel is owned in Shanghai by
Messrs H. K. Drake & Co - So far as he knows by
H. E. Drake and P. Conklin - that he has
been Master of this Steamer Since the 11th day
of August 1864 - that his first voyage on
her was from Shanghai in China to
the Port of Nagasaki in the latter
part of August 1864 & left Nagasaki
to return to Shanghai about September 1st
that the said voyage of said Steamer
was from Shanghai to Nagasaki

About

about the 22nd September last - that, after leaving Shanghai, the Screw of the Steamer came off and we were obliged to put into the Port of Amoy in China & from Amoy we Sailed direct to Nagasaki - from Nagasaki we started for Yokohama about the first of October last and after having passed the Straits of Shimonosaki some fifty miles our flues gave way so that we could only make from 5 to 8 lbs. Steam & we had to Return and stopped in the Straits to Repair our flues about 3 days And thence returned to Nagasaki, - that while Lying in the said Straits Repairing our flues we had no communica with the Shore except to get some Water, eggs & fowls - that while there Japanese Officers came on board to Enquire what we wanted & we told them we were in distress & wanted water & fresh provisions - that while there we repaired sufficiently to take us to Nagasaki - that we did not buy or sell any goods, Wares or Merchandise, while there, of any Kind Whatever & that no goods, produce, Arms or Munitions

of war

of war of any kind or nature were sold by myself or any one else on board the Steamer to my knowledge or belief or Contracted for on either Side While we were lying there that we left there for Nagasaki as soon as our Repairs were made, Sailing direct to that Port that after loading Cargo in Nagasaki we returned thence to Shanghai about the 6th November last. After getting outside the Port of Nagasaki we had Strong Westerly headwind & had to put back on this account also our flues again gave out & finding ourselves to Leeward of Nagasaki we put into the first Anchorage we Could reach which proved to be about 50 miles South West from Nagasaki a Small Island, the name of which I have forgotten but where we anchored was about 3 miles from a Japanese Village We laid at this place ten days, the first day of our arrival we were visited by Japanese officials who wanted to know what we were there for - that we told them we were in distress - that

We

We did no business there except to get
Some water, Eggs & fowls. And repaired our
Machinery - That while in our first positi
the Wind veered round & we changed
Our Anchorage about 1½ miles from the
first position behind another portion of
the Island - that I did no business
at either position except as herein State
Nor did any one else on board the Steam
to the best of my knowledge & belief & I
Should have known if they had that
We sailed from thence direct to Shangh
& reached that Port about the first of
December last -

That on the 2nd day of January ulti
We left the Port of Shanghai for Nagas
& arrived there on the 5th of the Same mon
- discharged our Cargo - took in Some
Cargo for this Port & left Nagasaki
On or about the 20th that We reached
Shimonosaki Straits & meeting Strong
East Wind found it necessary to make
Some Repairs of our flues - that we laid
there two days & thence came through the
Island Sea to this Port - that while at

Shimonos

Shimonosaki We neither landed or
Shipped any kind of Cargo or parcels
Whatever And did no Trading of any
kind Except to get Some Water – that M
Drake has always been with us during
these Several Voyages As Owner & Super
– that I have never known him to re
or discharge any Cargo or parcel of a
kind at any other Port in Japan exc
at Nagasaki & this Place – that I ha
not known of his trading or bartering
with any Japanese official or other
person or persons at either Shimonosak
or the Island named Where we were
obliged to lay ten days as Staled en
route from Nagasaki to Shanghai –
nor at any Point on the Coast of Japa
or in the passage through the Inland
Sea

(Sgd.) C. H. McCaslu

Subscribed to & Sworn to
before me this 1st day
of February 1865

(Sgd.) Geo S. Fisher
U. S. Consul

No. 1

Consulate of the U. S of America
Kanagawa, Japan

On this first day of February A. D. 1865 personally appeared before me, the undersigned, George S. Fisher, Consul of the U. S of America for Kanagawa & the dependencies thereof Henry Williams aged 29 Years, resident of Portland, England who being duly sworn on his oath, deposes & says: that he is the 2nd mate of the "Fee Fang" late "Monitor" & has been on her 9½ months — that he shipped on her at "Amoy" & sailed thence to Nagasaki - that after discharging cargo there they started to come to this Port but meeting Strong Head Winds about 50 miles East of the Straits of Shimonoseki & the boilers giving out, they returned to the Straits & after repairs to Nagasaki - that afterwards she started for Shanghaie & getting outside was obliged to return on account of Severe head wind, high sea & leaky boilers to Nagasaki but had to go to Southard & anchored behind a Small Island, name unknown to affiant & there repaired & went thence to Shanghaie - that he has been on her thence again to Nagasaki

& via

& Via Shimonosaki Straits and the Inland Sea to this Port - that at neither of the Stopping places named nor at any other place on the Coast of & in the Strs of Shimonosaki or in the Inland Sea has there been any box, boxes, parcels or packages of Cargo of any description Whatever landed from or received on board said Steamer, except at Nagasaki & this Port & that to the best of his knowledge & belief there has no person or persons as Supercargo, owner, passenger, officer or otherwise on board said Steamer been engaged in doing any business or trading at any place in Japan not opened for trade by Treaty & that in his Opinion had there been any thing of the kind he must have had knowledge of it.

(Sgd) Henry William

Subscribed & Sworn to
before me this 1st day of
February A. D. 1865

(Sgd) Geo. S. Fisher
U. S. Consul

Copy

Consulate of the U. S. of America
Kanagawa, Japan
February 2nd 1865

On the day and year above written personally came before me, the undersigned George S. Fisher, Consul of the U. S of America for Kanagawa & the dependencies, George A. Weed, who, being duly sworn on his oath deposes & says, he is 41 years of age and resides in Stamford, Connecticut and that he is now engaged as 2nd Engineer on the Am. Str. "Fee Pang" now in this Port and has been as such since the 21st of December last - that his first Voyage on this Steamer was from Shanghae to Nagasaki - that his next Voyage on her was to this Port - that owning to leaky boilers & not being able to make any Steam to propel the Vessel, we lay by nearly two days making necessary repairs to proceed - that I do not know the name of the place where we lay but it was a narrow inlet bay or Straits - that while laying there I was on deck but once and do not remember to have heard anyone mention the name of the

Place

that after said Repairs were completed
we came on to this Port - that since I
have been here I have been engaged
almost Constantly until yesterday in
putting necessary Repairs on the boiler
& that now they are in good order - that
previous to her last Voyage from Shanghai
She had him Repaired & her work Slighted
& would not do for a high pressure boat
And that owing to this fact & I believe
former neglect & Carelessness in the use of
the boilers, the flues & boiler were constantly
getting out of order.

(Sgd) G. N. Weed

Subscribed & Sworn to
before me this day & year
first above written

(Sgd) Geo. S. Fisher
U. S Consul

Copy

Consulate of the U. S. of America
Kanagawa, Japan

On the first day of February A. D. 1865 personally came before me, George S. Fisher, Consul of the U. S of America for Kanagawa and the dependencies thereof Eben C. Johnston, who being duly sworn on his oath deposes & says that he is twenty eight years of age, resides in Bath, Maine - that he is the mate of the Steamer called the "Fee Pang Cate the Monitor now in this Port and has been on her since the 15th May 1864 - that he first shipped as 2nd mate - that his first voyage on her was from Nagasaki to Hakodadi and reached the latter port about the 21st or 22d May 1864 - that the Str. proceeded direct to Hakodadi Anchoring but once on the way there at night about 40 miles from the last named Port - that She remained in Hakodade to the 3d July last - & Sailed on that day towards Nagasaki but affiant does not know whether the Steamer cleared for Shanghai or Nagasaki - that she had been at Sea Seven days when She got out of Coal & put into Fugi-gawa to procure

Wood

wood & coal - that this was on the night of the 10th July last - that just before dark Some Japanese came alongside to know what we wanted wood & coal to go to Nagasaki that they left, making no answer - that the next morning we were fired into with Solid Shot - that we immediately gathered up our dunnage & anything we had in the shape of fuel & got up Steam enough to get away - that before we could get clear of the harbor we were fired into with Rifles & muskets - that as soon as we got out of the reach of the latter we fired Shell back at them, at the same time kept moving out to sea - that we then went to an Island to the - Westward & cut our own wood & having procured enough to take us to Nagasaki, proceeded there and after taking in Coal proceeded thence to Shanghai where we arrived about the end of July, that during this Voyage the Steamer was under Command of Captain Friend, that She made no - Stop at any Port or Ports on the way to - Fugigawa & Only went in them for fuel - that we had bad weather nearly all the

Way

way from Hakodade down & when we
reached Fugigawa we had not more than
a ton or 2 of coal & had then been burning
Wood and dunnage, birth boards etc., That
he has been on the Steamer, during all the voyage
She has since made and as particularly
stated by his present master, Capt. Mc. Colin
- that to the best of his knowledge this vessel
nor any person or persons on her since he has
been on her has never traded or done any
business at any Port or Ports in Japan
or along the Coast of Japan not open to
trade by Treaty, with the exception of water
fowls & eggs at Shimonosaki & at the Island
named South West of Nagasaki where we
were weather bound as Stated by Capt.
Mc. Coslin about ten days - That he has
never seen Mr. Drake or any other person
or persons from or on board this Steamer since
he has been on her, Ship or land any box
parcel or goods Wares & Merchandise, Arms
Munitions of War or packages of any kind
or Shape at any place in Japan except at
Nagasaki & this Port and that he does
not believe any such box, parcel, goods,

Wares

wares or merchandise, arms, ~~Dx~~munitions of war or packages of any kind have ever been landed from this Steamer at any place or Port on the Coast of Japan not open to trade by Treaty & that he would have known of such proceeding had any occurred either at Shimonosaki, the Island named at Fagigawa or in the Inland Sea & that he believes the only reason this Steamer has ever stopped at the places named was to repair her flues or on account of Stress of Weather & for no other purpose whatever except to get a few Stores or fresh provisions such as water, eggs, fowls or fuel

(Sgd) Eben C. Johnson

Subscribed & Sworn to
before me this 1st day
of February 1865

(Sgd) Geo. S. Fisher
U. S. Consul

No. 13.

Legation of the United States at Japan
Kanagawa. February 9. 1865.

Their Excellencies
the Ministers for Foreign Affairs
& & &
Yedo.

Referring to Your letter in reference to the movements of a vessel under the American flag at Simonoseki, I have the honor to inform Your Excellencies that having heard that the US Merchant Steamer "Fe Fang" late the Monitor which recently arrived at this port had stopped at that place, I directed Mr Fisher Our Consul at Kanagawa to examine under oath the officers, crew and passengers of that vessel as to her movements & calls at any of the ports of Japan.

The testimony is too voluminous to be copied and translated but it is at the US Consulate where it can be examined by the Governor of Kanagawa or any officer or Interpreter on his behalf. - It is sufficient to say that the testimony

Conclusively

Conclusively shows that the Steamer had only put into Japanese ports in case of necessity for repairs, once at the Island of Amakusa and twice for a short time at Simonoseki — and no trade of any kind was carried on at either of those places or at any other place except that a few eggs and chickens were purchased at Simonoseki on the last passage to this port.

This was the Steamer which was fired on by Choshu batteries at Shikuzaki where she put in having no fuel on board.

The boilers were at that time injured and on the several occasions referred to, in which repairs were made. save out in the flues.

She is now in good order and the officers say no occasion can again arise for any such visit. I have caused the Consul to inform the owners and officers that a heavy fine will be imposed by the United States Government if the Steamer shall so

for trade with any port which is not open,
and I assure Your Excellencies that
I shall spare no effort faithfully to
enforce the treaty in this respect.

With respect and esteem:

Signed/ Robt H. Pruyn

Minister Resident of the United States
in Japan.

Enclosure No 6
with despatch No 10.
dated Kanagawa March 7. 1865.

Mr Pemberton Lovejoy

To His Excellency
Robert H. Pruyn
Minister Resident of the United States
of America &c. &c. &c.

We received Your letter N° 13 of the 9th February, in which You state in reference to the American Merchant vessel "Lee Sang" which anchored off Simonoseki in our Province of Chohsiu that You Consul by Your orders fully investigated this matter; - that the said vessel had only remained a short time at that port for repairs, and had no intercourse with the people, except that some eggs and chickens were purchased: You also state that the testimony in this case is very voluminous and may be examined at the American Consulate by the Governor of Kanagawa, or by Officers or Interpreters on his behalf. But as the circumstances are fully set forth in Your letter and believed by us, - there will be no necessity for examining that testimony - and we.

&c.

now tenders You our thanks for Your friendly action

Stated in reply With respect and esteem:

The 29th day of the 1st month of the 2nd year of Tenji (24 February 1863).

Signed Mōtemo Hanrii no Kami

Tsuwa Inaba no Kami

No: 11. Rec'd May 4th Ch Gulick

Legation of the United States in Japan

Kanagawa March 9 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your despatches No 76. 79. 84. 85 and 86, dated October 7th. October 10th. November 7th. December 6th and December 14th respectively, all of 1864.

Your despatch No 86 acknowledges the receipt of my despatch No 93 of the date of October 10th; — but I have written no letter of that date or number, & am therefore uncertain whether You refer to my No 57 of September 3rd, or to my No 62 of October 12th, neither of which have been otherwise acknowledged; and both of which contain numerous enclosures. —

The Honorable
Wm H. Seward.
Secretary of State
Washington.

1

I am highly gratified that the President has been pleased to continue his approval of my official course.

I indulge the hope that the Gunboat Tsuki Yama was allowed to leave so soon as the President received information of the conclusion of the Convention. The other Powers appear to regulate their conduct on the fact that peace now prevails. Every British Mail Steamer which arrives brings cases of rifles. The Officers and Men of the French Navy have recently been engaged in thoroughly repairing the Japanese Steamer Jang-tse and are now preparing to put in operation for the Japanese Government a Machine shop and a lot of land in this place has been turned over to the French Authorities in acknowledgment for said services.

The keel of a frigate to be built for this Government has been laid in Holland; British Steamers have

recently

recently been sold to this Government and an Agent of the same is now in Europe authorized to contract for iron clads.

It would be impossible for me at this time to prepare a statement of the loss which this Government would sustain by the non-delivery of the Ship. - as most of the funds are now in US Currency, ~~odds~~ of which was taken before the present heavy depreciation took place, the loss will necessarily be heavy, unless as I hope and believe a speedy change for the better shall take place.

But I cannot doubt that in view of the great friendship which has prevailed between the two Countries, the ship will be delivered and loss thereby avoided:

Without doubting the wisdom of the President's order, I am sure he will pardon my expressing the hope and desire that he will now hasten her departure, if it have not already

taken

taken place. So the course none of the Treaty Powers can justly take exception, and it will speedily strengthen amicable relations with Japan.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant

E. H. Penny

Minister Resident in Japan.

Rec'd 3d June. Mr Bigelow
Ans. &c

No 12

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa March 16th 1865

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose copies of the Minute of a Conference recently held with the Tycoon by H.B.M.'s Chargé d'Affaires and the political agent of the Netherlands, and also of a Memorandum submitted by them on that occasion and of their letter to me communicating the same. Enclosures No 1. 2 and 3. No 1263.

Two subjects of common interest were considered on that occasion; - one - an alleged attempt to create a Government monopoly of Silk. - - the other having reference to what they said they felt justified in declaring to be the desire of their Government as to the final disposition of the obligations assumed by the Taicoon in and by the Convention

The Honorable.
Wm H. Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

recently

recently concluded with the Tycoon Powers.

I was at Yedo on the day the British Chargé d'affaires left for that City and was not aware of his design to call the attention of the Gorojio to these Subjects, which Mr Winchester states was owing to the detention of a letter which he sent to the Consul General of Holland then also in Yedo, asking him to consult me. - But on the eve of his departure for Yedo Mr Winchester had an interview with the French Minister when the latter disavowed any such design as being entertained by himself and he therefore now feels aggrieved at the formal presentation of the Subject to the Gorojio after such disavowal not only as a discourteous act, but as one calculated discreditting the Sincerity of his disavowal.

When therefore the Gorojio unexpectedly declared they had the right to purchase Silk for Sale abroad and the representation of Great Britain and Holland had presented their memorandum protesting against the Same, it became necessary for them to

obtain

obtain the Cooperation of their Colleagues with which they had till that time believed they could dispense. - The Minister of France when waited on by them after their return from Jedo. Condemned their Course with considerable warmth - and declined Sanctioning the Memorandum by his approval. I expressed myself willing to meet my Colleagues and join in a Memorandum which should be free from the objections which I pointed out as attaching to the one they had presented.

When they subsequently transmitted the letter and Copies above referred to, the Minister of France proposed that we should answer the same jointly. - Though we agreed in considering the Memorandum objectionable in itself and also in regretting that Separate action had been taken, I preferred not to do so, fearing it might create more serious differences and might connect me with personal difficulties the issue of which I could not foresee and would be powerless to control.

I have reason to know that my

Representations.

representations and mediation have tended greatly to moderate the reply of the French Minister and to soften the asperity of feeling which at one time appeared to threaten an interruption of our harmonious action.

N°4 I also enclose N°4. copy of my letter to Messrs Winchester & Polshoek in

N°4 reply and N° 5 copy of Note Verbale of the French Minister in reply to the same.

I thought it best not to enter into any extended discussion of the Memorandum, but will ask my Colleagues to join in a Note to the Japanese Government which shall be more precise and which will not justify the adoption of measures by the Japanese Government which the representations of Great Britain and Holland have inadvertently conceded ~~to ... it~~ may legitimately adopt. Such as either the direct increase of export and import duties which is declared to be the right of all Governments

P

or the intrinsic increase of the former by the imposition of transit duties, - the exercise of both of which rights must be regarded as restrained by existing Treaties and to that extent extinguished.

The papers transmitted require no further notice. - I hope the President will think I have acted with discretion and that it was well not to make this separate action the subject of more serious complaint. - My letter was framed with the design to permit such explanations as might re-establish harmony though I was sensible, it was, to say the least, indelicate to forestall the actions of the four Powers in reference to a Convention, which may even now be under consideration.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant

Robt. H. Pruyn
Minister Resident in Japan.

N. 38/74. Kanagawa 11 March 1866.

Sir,

We have the honor to wait on You with Copies of a minute of what took place at an interview we had with the Gorojo on the 6th instant and of a Memorandum which we thought it right to present to them, Consequent on the reply to our request for information on the Subject to which the said Memorandum relates.

Copies of this document have been transmitted to our Colleague the Minister Plenipotentiary of France.

Be good enough to accept the assurance of our highest Consideration

To
His Excellency.
General Robt H. Pruyn
Minister Resident
of the United States.

Yokohama.

while we have the honor to be

Your most obedient humble servants

Signed Charles A. Winchester

Hell. Chargé d' Affaires

in Japan

D. de Graeff van Polsbroek.

Political Agent & Consul General.

of the Netherlands.

Minute

of a Conference held at Yedo on the 6th March 1865.

Present. Mesrsrs Hanni no Kami and Sawa Shiba no Kami, Ministers and Sakai Hida no Kami Vice Minister on the part of the Japanese Government

and

Charles A. Winchester Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'affaires and Dr Schaeff van Polsbroek Consul General and Political Agent of the Netherlands.

After the usual interchange of Compliments the British Chargé d'affaires opened the Conference by announcing the return of Sir Rutherford Alcock to Japan - and the approval by his Government of the policy pursued by him with regard to the late Japanese affairs, which intelligence was received by the Japanese Ministers with much appearance of interest - and enquiries were made as to the probable date of his return.

The British Chargé d'affaires then while thanking the Japanese Ministers in the name of his Government for the courtesies

deps

Steps taken by them in bringing to justice one of the principals in the murder of the two British Officers at Kamakura, enquired whether any traces had been discovered of Takahashi Sojiro - the other assassin, - to which the Ministers replied that Shimidzu Seiji must have given a false name of his accomplice as no such name as Takahashi Sojiro was known to them. - No efforts, they said, would however be spared to discover and punish this Criminal.

The gold watch sent out by the British Government for the prince of Matsmai for services rendered to the British Barque Egeria, was then handed over to the Japanese Ministers with some appropriate remarks as to the degree in which the British Government appreciated the kind treatment which on various occasions had been received by shipwrecked crews on the Japanese shores.

Next came the Hakodate and Hiogo Complaints respecting spurious coin issued by the Chinese in purchasing and

ex

exporting Awabi and Fuccos and other important articles which could not be obtained except with great difficulty by the Subjects of Treaty Powers. Foreign Representatives present pointed out to the Sanjio the injustice of this monopoly which had been granted to Subjects of a non Treaty Power and stated that it created constant difficulties and led to an organized System of native Smuggling. The Chinese they said were quite as well able to pay for such articles as they required as other Nations. When Japan was opened by the Treaties of 1858. the trade with Holland which had formerly been one of Government ceased to be so, and the Continuance of a Government Contract favorable to the Chinese but prejudicial to all other Nations was totally opposed as well to the principles embodied in, as to the express provisions of the Treaties. Representatives present were ready to admit that immediate interests might require Special Consideration, but then would be better provided for out of the produce of a regular and authorized duty to be levied during transit of these articles, than by the

Continuance.

Continuance of a contract opposed to sound policy and treaty rights.

The Ministers stated in reply that the Matter would be duly enquired into, and that instructions would be sent to the Governors of Nagasaki and Hakodate to remove the Cause of Complaint.

Foreign Representatives present, while declaring themselves Satisfied with this reply, said, they had another and very important Subject to bring under the notice of the Japanese Government - and one which they considered of Such importance that they now thought it their duty - to ask for information from the Foreign Ministers - Certain Rumours which had Caused much disquietude had reached them of a project having been formed for the Consignment of large quantities of Silk and ora to the market in Europe for the purchase of vessels arms ammunition &c

The Japanese Ministers did not deny the existence of Some Such project and Said they Considered that Japan was perfectly at liberty to make Contracts with any

Nation.

stations for the supply of vessels of war, arms and other warlike stores — and to pay. Such contracts by the surplus of produce not required for home consumption in the same manner as they formerly used to deal with the Dutch Government.

Hereupon the Dutch Consul General observed that the Ministers were in error inasmuch as since the date of the present treaties Japan had never had any direct trade with the Dutch Government, for they must remember he said, that even for the old contracts, remittances had to be made not in produce but in dollars through the Dutch Trading Company — and that since the treaties were in operation the trade had been given over to individuals

the projects rumoured led to the idea virtually of a monopoly which Japan was going to establish in favor of one market — a proceeding which he and his British Colleague were bound to oppose. the subject was of vital importance to the trade of the subjects of Their Majesties the Queen and the King and all other treaty

Powers.

Powers – and if the Sroojo could not give the assurance that such projects were not in existence, or would not be prosecuted so as to guarantee the non recurrence of the late restrictions of 1863 and 1864, they had no alternative but to refer the matter to their respective Governments as inconsistent with the rights acquired by their Subjects under treaties. As the time would not allow any lengthened discussion of this important point, his British Colleague and himself had in the event of receiving such an answer as the above from the Sroojo Drawn up a Memorandum setting forth their views upon the Subject. The said Memorandum signed in the Dutch language with a Japanese paraphrase was then delivered to the first Minister, who in the name of the Sroojo replied that he had perfectly understood what the two Foreign Representatives present had said and that they might feel assured that the Subject would receive the consideration it deserved.

It was then suggested on the other part

that

that a Foreign Foreign Affairs should shortly be sent to Yokohama in order to discuss the Subject with the Foreign Ministers generally.

Subsequently the two Representatives present informed the Sanjo that though no instructions had been received as to the Conventions of October last, they had been made acquainted with the views of their respective Governments as to the alternative conditions, which left to the option of the Japanese Government the opening of Simonoseki or some other eligible port in the Inland Sea in lieu of an indemnity money, and were justified in stating that the Same was unobjectionable

The Japanese observed in reply that this was a point which required consideration and which should be deferred till the return of the two Members of the Sanjo, who had been sent by the Taicoon on a special mission to the Mikado.

In conclusion the two Representatives present remarked that the time had arrived for reestablishing Foreign Legations

ab

at Yedo. — and that the Government of the Taicoon was now considered strong enough to remove all obstacles to the permanent residence of Foreign Diplomatic Agents in the Capital.

The Japanese Ministers replied that was another point which they could not undertake to discuss until the Members of the Foreign were complete. — if the message to Kioto were successful there should on their part be no difficulty in settling the Question of the Foreign Legations. Representatives were aware that since the past Year a good deal had been done towards tranquillizing the Country, and if the Treaty Powers would only give them a few months more time, order and peace might be sufficiently restored so as to afford better security to the Foreign Agents in the Taicoon's Capital.

The Conference ended by the presentation of Commodore Matthews, Commanding British Squadron, and Colonel Browne Commandant of the British troops with their respective staffs. —

As reported by me.

Signed Martin Dohmen.
Acting Japanese Secretary
to H.Brit. Legation
Yedo 6th March 1865.

Countersigned by.
Charles A Winchester
H.Brit. Chargé d'affaires
in Japan.

" Dedpaeff van Sohsbeek
Consul General and Political
Agent of the Netherlands in Japan.

true Copy
Signed Martin Dohmen

Memorandum.

The rumours which now prevail with respect to the existence of an extensive design for the purchase of the raw Silk and Silkworms' eggs of Japan and despatching them to one particular market to lay down funds required for the completion of contracts entered into on behalf of the Japanese Government in that Country are of a nature calculated to create anxiety

These rumours have been steadily on the increase, though they have not assumed such a shape as to require the use in speaking of them, of individual names - still from their character and persistence - the Undersigned are justified in applying to the Japanese Government for general information as to whether any project of the kind have been formed - and to their nature - because, if the Japanese Government is not able to assure the Undersigned that such designs

Leave

have not been nor will be formed; it would be the duty of the Undersigned to point out the difficulties which such plans are certain to create and adopt in doing so, the weightiest form of remonstrance.

The Silk restrictions of 1863 and 1864, which consisted in the detention of that article at Yedo, were clearly contrary to Treaties, which provide that (Art XIV British Treaty) foreign Merchants shall be allowed to trade freely with Japanese Merchants in all lawful articles, according to the stipulations in the Treaties and the Regulations

There is not the slightest disposition on the part of the Undersigned to Complain of the Selections by the Japanese Government of any particular Country for the supply of its stores ships and munitions, — neither if the bringing of Silk into open Market at Yokohama and the other ports is not interfered with, is there any objection to the Japanese Government buying

Some

home silk instead of dollars to pay for their contracts. The experience of all Commercial Countries proves beyond doubt that it is neither wise nor prudent in Governments to make themselves Merchants. Whenever a Government is known to be in the market to buy anything, the price is sure to rise; if it wishes to sell, it is equally sure to fall through the tricks of individual merchants, who are always jealous of Governments as Competitors and never think it any sin to fleece them. But both Governments and individuals have to pay for their experience and only learn to abide by true principles when they find it more costly to deviate from than to adhere to them.

But this is not what the reports point to. They mean a Repetition of the restrictions of last Years — namely that the native Merchants are not to be allowed to bring their silk to Yokohama till they have first sold as much as the

Government.

Government wants at a lower price. Now
this is simply a repetition of the Silk
restrictions of 1863 and 1864 with the
single difference that its effect is to
create a total or partial monopoly in
favour of the Country to which the silk
is destined.

The effect on the Merchants of
other foreign Countries Settled in Japan
is the same. There is no free market
for the purchase of Silk to which the
Japanese traders are permitted to
bring produce on payment of the
customary and regular transit dues.
The price of any Silk which is then
brought into the market is heightened
because the Supply has been diminished
in proportion to the amount of the
Quantity bought through this forced re-
duction.

Naturally, if after this Communi-
cation of the views of the Undersigned, they
find from actual experience that there is
a repetition of the restrictions alluded to,
the Governments of the Queen and King will

look

look to that of the Taicoon for explan-
ation of devices which prevent British
and Dutch Subjects from trading in
the open markets provided by Treaty.
On such a point they will make no
question with any other party than
the Taicoon's Government.

But there is another point of view
in which it is the duty of the Under-
signed to invite a consideration of the
projects as removed which appear to
them to rest on an unsound basis, and
they believe are supported by false arguments.
It is said there would be presumably greater
profits on Japanese produce if consigned
abroad for sale in furtherance of these de-
signs and not sold in Japan. - Why
should not Japan therefore keep to herself
the profit that lies between the foreign
purchaser of the Silk in Yokohama and
the manufacturer in the foreign Country?
- This is true in a way, but not in
the manner represented.

If the Taicoon's Government were to
encourage Japanese Merchants and Commercial

Agents

agents to settle abroad in the first marts of the world as London, Paris, Manchester Lyons, Amsterdam, Hamburgh, New York & there to receive the produce of Japan on consignment - and thence send back as returns such articles as are wanted, and when sold in Japan will fetch a profit. the profit both ways would be saved minus the outlay involved in these foreign Japanese Mercantile establishments. Nothing would give the Government of their Majesties the Queen and King greater pleasure than to witness such a step on the part of the Government of the Taicoon. - Already have numerous Youths from the estates of the Taicoon and the Princes been sent to Europe for instruction in Sciences and arts. Why not send abroad the Sons of Japanese Merchants and Commercial agents also, to be instructed in the Counting Houses of these great trading Cities and afterwards form in their Countries establishments of their own! Such a step would be indeed the true Mission of Japan to the world.

But the more containment of whole or part of the available produce not required for consumption in Japan to one foreign mart will not secure a higher price. The essence of high price is Competition. There in Yokohama merchants from England, France, Holland Switzerland, Germany, America are Competing keenly with each other face to face with equal or greater number of Japanese Merchants, whereas if a particular market belonging to one of these Nations is chosen, the Competitors are in effect restricted to one Section of the list or Seven now to be found in Yokohama, so far as the Side which will correspond to the foreign Side of the Yokohama market is concerned; while the Japanese Side must, as things now stand be entirely represented by foreign agency. - The eminent statesmen who govern Japan will, if they weigh such considerations have no difficulty in arriving at the Conclusion that the best market for Japanese produce is to be found in Sub

letting

mitting it to the greatest amount of Competition. It is by steadily adhering to true Commercial principles that the financial operations of a Government are best conducted. Every Government does wisely without foreign interference to levy such steady and equitable taxes on its exports, imports and produce, as are requisite to supply the wants of the State: but the sudden creation of monopolies - and the imposition of restrictions to effect particular objects is wasteful and improvident; a nation may be great and powerful for other reasons in spite of them, but never by reason of them.

Yedo 6th March 1865.

Signed Charles A Winchester
U States Chargé d'affaires in Japan
Dr Graeff van Polsbroek.
Consul General and Political Agent
of the Netherlands in Japan.

N. 23.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa March 14. 1865.

Gentlemen.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your joint letter of the 11th instant with its enclosures. consisting of a Minute of what took place at Your recent Conference with the Grojo and of a Memorandum which on that occasion You presented to them.

The rumors to which You therein refer had not escaped my notice, but the project which they indicated was so manifestly in violation of existing Treaties and so incapable of execution as to have failed to induce me to seek a Conference

Messrs Chas A Winchester
H Bell. Chargé d'Affaires
and
A de Graeff van Polsbroek
Political Agent & Consul General
of the Netherlands.

&c

with my Colleagues, much less make it the subject of a formal Note.

I understood You however to say when You verbally communicated to me the result of Your Conference that they had assumed such shape and consistency as not to permit You to pass them by unnoticed.

I should not have been indisposed therefore in conjunction with my Colleagues to have made them the subject of a joint Memorandum, in which we should have declared to the Japanese Government that the Treaties contemplated only trade between the Citizens and Subjects of the different Powers and that any Governmental interference either by a purchase of the surplus products of the Country or any part of them, or by preventing their reaching the open ports, or by sending them beyond those ports would be justly regarded as an infraction of those Treaties.

The Signal Success, which has attended the cordial Cooperation of the Representatives of the Four Powers in matters of common interest induces me

to regret that there should have been an interruption of joint action, which I am disposed however to attribute rather to the suddenness of Your determination while in Yedo to seek the interview than to any want of Courtesy to Your Colleagues or of desire to obtain their concurrence. Apart from the necessity of manifesting to the Japanese Government the continuance of this purpose of concerted action. I repeat it the more as it deprived me of an opportunity of suggesting an important modification of Your Memorandum to which I directed Your attention at our interview immediately on Your return from Yedo. — I cannot admit "that there is no objection to the Japanese "Government sending abroad silk to pay for "stores, ships and munitions". — The Japanese Government would necessarily be the sole judge of the extent to which such right should be exercised. - My objection extends to the principle and any violation of it should meet with immediate and strong remonstrance.

I was not aware till after the receipt of Your letter that You had made the

Convention.

Convention of October last the subject of any remark at that interview. - In the absence of any despatches from my Government since the receipt of the Convention in the United States, I am unable to say what its decision or preference will be if the alternative of some eligible port shall be offered for the acceptance of the Four Powers. - I cannot doubt however that our Governments, when the proper time arrives, will act in concert after full Consultation. - While disposed to interpret your remarks at the recent Conference to be, such as it was declared to be by the Convention — the establishment of better relations with Japan - and not the receipt of money — I would have suggested and Counselled, had opportunity been afforded, that no Communication should have been made in reference thereto - in the absence of positive instructions until the Representatives of the Four Powers were able to unite therein

I embrace this opportunity to renew the assurance of my desire to cultivate and maintain unimpaired that perfect accord in

the

the part of the Representatives of the Treaty Powers, which has been so happily established and which has been productive of so much good — as most agreeable to my own wishes and the instructions of the President of the United States — and as the best security for the preservation of our Common Treaty Rights

I have the honor to be.

Gentlemen

Your most Obedient Servant

Signed Robt H. Pruyn

Minister Resident of the United States

in Japan.

Translation

Legation of France in Japan.

Note Verbale.

The Undersigned has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the joint letter dated the 11th March, addressed to him by Mr Winchester Chargé d'Affaires of Her Britannic Majesty and Mr de Graeff van Polsbroek Political Agent and Consul General of H.M. the King of the Netherlands transmitting copy of minute of their Conference with the Gorojio and of a Memorandum which they have deemed proper to present to them.

The Undersigned has already verbally expressed to Messrs Winchester and de Graeff van Polsbroek, when they came to Communicate to him the object and the result of their proceeding with the Gorojio, the painful feelings which he experienced when learning that his Colleagues had acted without him in a matter which interested him personally. - It was indeed publicly known that the Rumours taken

For

for basis of the Memorandum adressed by them to the Foreign Clearly and Solely point to France and its Representative who, it was said, had determined (induced) the Japanese Government to send all the Silk of Japan to the market of Lyons &c.

The Undersigned will not repeat any his opinions on this Subject, but contents himself with submitting the following remarks to his Colleagues.

The Representatives of America, England, France and Holland having succeeded in establishing amongst themselves a perfect understanding, which has so powerfully contributed to improve our political and Commercial Situation in Japan, and having engaged themselves to act in Concert each time that the General interests of the Foreign Nations shall be threatened by measures emanating from the Japanese Government, - the Undersigned thinks that both his Colleagues Messrs Winchester and de Graeff van Polsbroek might have come to an understanding with him previous to writing the Memorandum

Sent

which they presented to the Foreign on the subject of a question so pointedly connected with the interests of the respective Citizens and Subjects of the four Powers above named.

H.B.M.'s Chargé d'Affaires and the Political Agent of H.M. the King of the Netherlands would then have convinced themselves, that not only does the Undersigned consider any Commercial operation on the part of the Japanese Government as opposed to the spirit and the letter of the Treaties and of International Law, but also, that he did not admit, as his Colleagues have admitted in their Memorandum the right of the said Government to send Silk abroad in exchange for Arms and Munitions which it may have purchased there.

The Commercial interests which the Undersigned is sent to protect require that the Japanese Government shall absolutely abstain from any Commercial act whatever either directly or indirectly.

The Undersigned cannot explain the reply of the Foreign according to the minute

written.

written by his Colleagues in any other manner than as a misunderstanding or an error of translation; - on many occasions and recently again he has had similar Commercial questions to discuss with the Envoys of these Envoys - and never has he been able to trace in their replies the slightest indication of intentions on their part such as are attributed to them.

The spread of the maintenance of such errors might affect the character of the Representative of France and he therefore considers it a duty to call without delay for a special declaration statement on this subject on the part of the Envoys.

The Undersigned also believes that Messrs. de Graeff van Polsbroek and Winchester might have omitted jointly and officially to discuss with the Envoys the question relating to the war indemnity granted by the Japanese Government to England France America and Holland. This question having been the subject of a Convention signed by the Representatives of these four Powers, it seems more

natural

natural to the Undersigned not to dis-
cuss it with the Troops until after a
mutual understanding of the said
Representatives

It is then with profound regret
that the Undersigned now states fact,
which would be of a nature to
affect the good understanding, which
until now has subsisted between the
Representatives of the Four Powers, if
he had not, while dismissing any
impression of personal feeling, resolved
upon maintaining unimpaired the
unity, which is the essential con-
dition of the strength they must
oppose to the restrictive tendencies
of the Japanese Government.

Yokohama 14th March 1865.

Rec'd June 26

No. 13.

Wm Sullivan

Legation of the United States in Japan.

Kanagawa April 1. 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith No 1. my account for salary for the quarter ending the 31st Ultimo - and to inform You that I have this day drawn on the Department in the prescribed form for $731.17/ which draft is supported by the required vouchers. No 1

I have the honor to be Sir

Very respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

Robt. H. Pruyn

Minister Resident in Japan.

The Honorable.

Wm H Seward

Secretary of State

Washington.

[illegible] June 26 Mr Pilton

N 14.

Legation of the United States in Japan.

Kanagawa April 1. 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith No 1. account Salary of Interpreter this Legation No 1 for the quarter ending the 31st Ultimo — and to inform You, that I have this day drawn on the Department in the prescribed form for $245.82/, which draft is supported by the required vouchers.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

[signature]

Minister Resident in Japan.

The Honorable.

Wm H. Seward.

Secretary of State

Washington.

Rec. June 26

W. H. Seward

No. 15.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Kanagawa. April 1. 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith No 1. my account of Contingent Expenses this Legation for the Quarter ending the 31st March 1865 showing balance due me this day of $37.17. No 1

I have the honor to be Sir

Very respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

Robt. H. Pruyn

Minister Resident in Japan.

The Honorable.

Wm H. Seward

Secretary of State.

Washington.

Office U. S. Military Telegraph,
WAR DEPARTMENT.

The following Telegram received at Washington, 730 P.M. April 6 1865

From San Francisco April 6 1865

To Hon W. H. Seward

Number six Legation of the United States in Japan Hiogo

January twenty first 1865

Sir

One of the murderers of the British officers and two accomplices have been arrested and probably executed at this place I have the honor to be Sir

Your Most Obt Servt

Rob H Brown

Minister Resident

Japan

U. S. MIL. TEL. APR 6 1865

X/P.17/13 Col

Rec. June 26.

No. 16.

Mr Pruyn

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa April 24. 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose a copy of a letter received from the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, in which it is announced that Hitt the Taicoun does not think it expedient to avail himself of the privilege conferred by the Convention of tendering Simonoseki or some other eligible port in the Inland Sea in lieu of the indemnity which he therein agrees to pay to the Four Powers. Enclosure No. 1. No 1

A similar communication was at the same time addressed to my Colleagues, but as the Representatives of England and Holland had announced to the Japanese Government that their Governments preferred that another port should be opened, and the Ministers of

The Honorable W. H. Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

Pruyn

France had been instructed that the Government of His Imperial Majesty thought it better that the pecuniary indemnity should be paid, it was not thought we could frame a reply in which all could unite. I therefore transmitted a letter to the
No 2. Groujis of which I send Copy, Enclosure No 2

As by the terms of the Convention it was entirely optional with the Taicoon to open a port - and as the effect of the decision was to make the obligation to pay the indemnity absolute, it appeared to me that it was advisable to offer to receive the first instalment at the time named, as it was understood that the money was already in the Treasury and appropriated for that purpose. I therefore suggested to H Bellis Chargé d'affaires that it would not be inconsistent with his duty under the letter he had received declining the preference of H Bellis Government to unite in receiving the money proffered the Japanese Government paid it with the understanding that such receipt should not be understood as Committing

me

our Government to the extension of the times of payment of the remaining instalments. We therefore had a Conference and agreed to make that proposition. Whereupon I addressed a letter to the Foreign of which I enclose Copy. Enclosure No 3, which corresponds substantially with the reply sent in by each of my Colleagues. No 3

You will see the Government wish an extension of the time of payment of the second instalment, leaving it only to be inferred not expressed that the remaining instalments will be thereafter paid agreeably to the terms of the Convention. But they make no promise to do so. And it is more than probable that if this extension be granted ~~that~~ Similar efforts will be made to extend the time of payment of the other instalments, which will prove an embarrassment to trade for several years.

I concur with my Colleagues in the opinion that no such extension should be granted.

I have the honor to be Sir. Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant

Robt. H. Pruyn

Minister Resident in Japan.

Kanagawa April 24th 1865

Robt N. Pruyn

Minister Resident

No: 16.

3 Enclosures.

Received.

Simonoseki indemnity
to be paid by Japanese
Government. Extension
of 2d instalment applied for.

To His Excellency
Robert H. Pruyn.
Minister Resident of the
United States of America,
&c. &c. &c.

In order to arrange the difficulty caused by the hostile acts of Mori Daizen against the Ships of various Powers, an agreement was entered into by us and the Representatives of the Treaty Powers on the 22nd of the 9th month (22 October 1864) providing that in view of the mutual interests of the Governments interested, it is optional to open Simonoseki or another port in the Inland Sea - or to pay a Sum of money as indemnity - as stated in that written instrument

After having fully taken the present state of things in our Country into due Consideration, - we have come to the Conclusion that the opening of a new port is not only undesirable in view of our internal affairs - but that it would

also

also be attended with inconvenience for the Several Powers.

The real Cause which involved the friendly intercourse between the two Countries in great difficulties is the action of Mori Dairen; — the money of the indemnity therefore should be demanded from him, — but as one of the Daimio of our Country it is impossible to allow him to enter into negotiation on the subject with the Several Powers — and hence their Government was Compelled to assume the responsibility.

If a port be opened instead, the inconvenience for both Countries will increase twofold — and therefore after mature deliberation we have decided to choose the latter alternative, — viz: the payment of the indemnity.

The Choshu difficulty is still unsettled — Yet — one portion of the Sum of indemnity to be paid in Six instalments shall be delivered in the 8th month of this Year (August 1865) and because this Choshu difficulty has not Yet

yet been disposed of, it is desirable that for the payment of the balance an extension of one Year be granted, and it is proposed that the second instalment be paid in the first month of next Year, and further payments as provided by Convention from the last named date.-

As You are well acquainted with the State of affairs in our country, we do not doubt that You will fully comply with our desire.-

Dated with respect and esteem:
the 10th day of the 3rd month of the 2nd Year of Genji (5 April 1865).

Signed/ Mishima Michiaki no Kami
Suwa Shinano no Kami.-

Enclosure No. 1
with despatch No. 16
Dated Kanagawa April 24 1865.

N. 36.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa April 8. 1865.

Their Excellencies
the Ministers for Foreign Affairs
&c. &c. &c.
Yedo.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellencies' letter of the 10th day of the 3d month (5th instant).

It announces that the Government of Hiu the Taicoon has after mature deliberation decided not to tender Hiogo Monoseki & some other eligible port in the Inland Sea in lieu of the indemnity; — the right to which was reserved by the late Convention.

Your Excellencies therefore propose to pay the first instalment of the indemnity in the 6th month of this Year; the Second instalment in the 6th month of next Year — and the four remaining instalments at intervals subsequent to the Second payment as provided by

Convention

Conventions.-

Sufficient time has not elapsed to enable me to receive instructions on the Subject of the Conventions from my Government and to learn its preferences.

I feel assured however it would have cheerfully accepted a new post in lieu of all or part of the indemnity, had such been the wish of the Japanese Government.

I sincerely hope that the decision which has been made, founded as it is on a more intimate knowledge of the Commercial and political relations of the several parts of the Empire with each other may be such as is best calculated to improve the relations with the Treaty Powers and to ensure internal peace and tranquillity.

Meanwhile I shall transmit to my Government a copy of the letter of Your Excellencies. - On the arrival of instructions from our respective Governments the Ministers of the Four Powers will be in a position to take

Your

Your Excellencies' letter into full and friendly consideration - and give such answer as may be in our power as to Your proposal to extend the payment of the balance of the indemnity. -

With respect and esteem

Signed Robt H. Pruyn.

Minister Resident of the United States in Japan. -

Enclosure No. 2
with despatch No. 16
Dated Kampur April 14. 1885.

N: 39

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa April 17. 1865.

Their Excellencies
the Ministers for Foreign Affairs
&. &. &
Yedo.

In continuation of my letter N: 36. in relation to Your Excellencies' announcement that the Government of Hizen the Taicoon has resolved to pay the indemnity agreed on by the Convention of October 22. 1864. renouncing the right reserved therein to tender in lieu thereof an open port, it becomes my duty to inform Your Excellencies, that at a recent Conference between my Colleagues and myself, we arrived at the following conclusions, which harmonize with those contained in my said letter N: 36. -

The decision of Hizen the Taicoon becomes now a part of the Convention, and has the effect to make the obligation to pay the indemnity absolute.

The

The Representatives of the Treaty Powers will therefore be prepared to receive the first instalment at the time mentioned by Your Excellencies, but only on condition that such receipt shall not be considered as binding their respective Governments to the extension of the time fixed for the payment of the remaining instal. ments. - The Undersigned would be authorized with his Colleagues to accept the further instalments as they successively become due under the Convention: the Convention having doubtless before been ratified by the Powers parties thereto, cannot be changed by their Representatives

They must therefore make known Your Excellencies' wishes to their respective Governments for their decision. It will be competent, if they shall decide in a friendly spirit to comply in whole or in part with the request of Hell the Saicon to ~~the~~ the propose such equivalent advantages as may be regarded as necessary and just.

Animated by the most friendly

Sentiments

sentiments. I have transmitted a copy of
Your Excellencies' letter to my Government
which will at an early day after an
interchange of views with the Governments
of Great Britain, France and the Netherlands
give instructions to its Representative
Corresponding with the decision at which
they shall arrive. -

With respect and esteem

Signed Robt H. Pruyn.

Minister Resident of the United States
in Japan. -

Enclosure No. 3
with Despatch No 16
Dated Kanagawa April 24. 1865.

Rec.d June 26.

No. 17

J. W. Pilton

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa April 24. 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that I have issued passports to the following named persons.

E. Warren Paine	No. 13.
John Connor.	No. 14
J. D. Graham U.S.N.	No. 15
E. S. Benson	No. 16.

the fees collected for which have been duly placed to the credit of the United States and will be accounted for in my next account for Contingent Expenses of this Legation.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant

Robt. H. Pruyn
Minister Resident in Japan.

The Honorable W. H. Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

Rec'd Sept 5
No 18

Mr Abbott

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa April 24. 1865.

Sir,

The Taicoon elects to pay indemnity. - First instalment half a million to be paid in August. Extension asked for second instalment one year; the balance at intervals thereafter according to Convention. - Ministers advise against extension.

I have the honor to be
Your Obt Servant

Minister Resident in Japan.

The Honorable W H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

Rec.d Aug 7.

No. 19.

Mr Chilton

Legation of the United States in Japan.
Kanagawa. April 26. 1865.

Sir,

I had intended to delay availing myself of the leave of absence so kindly granted me by the President in July 1863 until the month of November next; but I have had a severe cold for several months which threatens to settle on my lungs. And after consultation with Dr Vedder of the Jamestown, Dr Hepburn of this place and Dr Willis of the British Legation, all of whom concur in recommending it as judicious to leave at this time, I have concluded as the aspect of affairs is exceedingly favorable to leave by the Steamer of the 28th instant.

I have left the Legation in charge.

The Honorable Wm H. Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

&c.

of Mr. Adl Portman, thinking this to be my duty under Sections 10 & 12 of the Act to regulate the Diplomatic and Consular Systems - approved August 1st 1856. and I feel sure the interests of our Government will be safe while confided to his care.

No. 1. I enclose No. 1. Certificate of Dr Willis.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very respectfully.

Your most Obedient Servant

Robt. W. Irving

Minister Resident in Japan.

H.B.M. Legation.
Yokohama,
April 17, 1865.

Sir,

In compliance with your request that I would state medically my opinion regarding the advisability of your profiting, at the present time, by the leave of absence you are in possession of, to return for a time to America; I have the

His Excellency,
General Pruyn,
Minister Resident
of the United States
in Japan

the honor to state, after a careful
profesional examination of your
general tone of health, and the
troublesome affection of the
mucous membrane of the nares,
from which you have been
suffering for the last nine
months, that I have no hesitation
whatever in urging upon you
the propriety of availing yourself
withoutdelay of your present
leave, as the only safe and
trustworthy means of reestablishing
your

your health.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient,

Humble Servant

William Willis M.D.

Medical officer attached

to Her Majesty's Legation

Lisbon

Enclosure No 1.
with despatch No. 19.
Dated Kanagawa, April 26. 1865.

Rec'd Nov. 2d 1885

No. 20.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa. April 28. 1885.

Sir,

Availing myself of the leave of absence granted me by the President, I shall leave Japan in the Mail Steamer to day - and I have now the honor to transmit herewith No 1 my account for salary from the 1st to the 28th of this month inclusive, and to inform you, that I have this day drawn on the Department in the prescribed manner for $222.68, which draft is supported by the required vouchers.-

No 1.

I also transmit No 2 my account for Contingent Expenses for the same period, showing balance in my hands this day of $376.85.- which amount I have paid over to Mr Alf Portman who will remain in charge of this Legation during my absence. and

No 2

The Honorable.
Wm H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

whose

whose receipt for the same I herewith
No. 3. enclose. - No. 3

I have the honor to be, &c.

Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant.

Robt. H. Pruyn
Minister Resident in Japan.

No. 2. 27th July.

Mr. Schilton

No. 21.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa April 28. 1865.

Sir.

It has long been my opinion as You are aware that internal troubles in this Empire are occasioned by the struggles of the Daimios to share in the profits of foreign trade, now wholly monopolized by the Taicoon; and I have reason to believe that the true sentiments of the Daimios if not systematically misrepresented by this Government are at least withheld from our knowledge.

The Prince of Satsuma once represented to be the head of the Sako or anti foreign party is now known to favor an extended trade. I believe such has always been his preference. - When Nagasaki was only

The Honorable Wm H. Seward
Secretary of State
Washington

open.

open to a very restricted trade with Holland; Satsuma imported largely from China through his princely domain the Lew Chew Islands. The lightest priced and most largely used cotton fabric is called Satsuma, partly manufactured in and partly received through his dominions.

Letters from Nagasaki now represent it as undoubtedly true that Choshu is equally favorable to an enlarged trade with foreigners, and is determined to participate in such trade, even if obliged to do so clandestinely. These letters are simply confirmatory of what we have otherwise learned of his purpose. And every Daimio in Kiushiu and Sikoku save one openly advocates the immediate opening of ports in the Inland Sea.

The ports now open are in Imperial Territory where the retainers and Merchants of Daimios are subject to arbitrary arrests. Togano Sogoro, one of Satsuma's physicians has been confined

in

in prison nearly three Years, because a letter was found in his possession from a foreign Merchant to his Daimio advocating the policy of trade with foreigners.

At Osacca the Daimios of the Empire enjoy privileges of trade secured to them by ancient Laws and Customs, which would enable them to meet the foreign Merchant on a footing of greater equality with the Taicoon. - The many vexatious restrictions on trade which can be maintained in the now open ports would be loosened in that City, and another advantage equally important can be only secured in that Commercial Centre of the Empire - the great Merchants and bankers can be met face to face. Here irresponsible men are the factors. Advances cannot be safely made on produce to be delivered. Large Sums have thus been lost. At Osacca they could be safely made if needful. And with the enlargement of trade at this great Entrepot of Manufactured Goods and native produce attended as it will be by more intimate relations

with

with a better class of Japanese. a more friendly feeling will prevail and greater security be obtained for life and property.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

Robt. H. Pruyn

Minister Resident in Japan.

Kanagawa April 29. 1861.

Robt H. Pruyn

Minister Resident.

No 21.

No Enclosures

Received –

Progressive tendencies of Daimios in Japan.

Rec^d July 27

Mr Carlton

No 22.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa. April 28. 1865.

Sir,

It becomes my duty to report to You that the Steamer Lancefield has been taken to Shanghai by the Tycoons late the "Monitor and Sold for the Sum of 15000 Shanghai taels.

This Steamer owned by Chosiu was purchased for $115000.- When the Wyoming was fired on at Simonoseki the boiler of the Lancefield was exploded by a Shell from her.

This, with the other injuries then sustained, is probably the cause of the depreciation in her value.- She is said to have been sold at the request of the officers of Chosiu.

The facts unknown to me. have.

The Honorable W^m H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

probably

probably been reported to the Department
by the Consul General at Shanghai.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

Robt. H. Pruyn

Minister Resident in Japan.

Rec.d Aug.t 2

No. 23.

Wm Shilton

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa April 28. 1865.

Sir,

Under the leave of absence granted him by the President, Mr Pruyn left Japan in the Mail Steamer which sailed this morning.

Officers of rank representing the Ministers and Governors for Foreign Affairs and Governor of Kanagawa accompanied Mr Pruyn to the boat, which was to take him to the Steamer, and then with every mark of respect took leave of him. The Representatives of France, Great Britain and the Netherlands and most of the Foreign Consuls accompanied Mr Pruyn onboard the Steamer, and when the Jot underweigh, a Salute in his honor of Seventeen

The Honorable
Wm H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

Guns

guns was fired from the fort.

On taking leave of me Mr Pruyn handed me instructions in his own handwriting, a copy of which I have the honor to transmit herewith Enclosure N.1.

N.1

No one can be more fully convinced than myself of the importance of maintaining the most friendly relations with the Japanese Government, and with the Representatives of the other Treaty Powers, - and I do not hesitate to give You the assurance, that in both respects I shall be entirely successful.

I shall cheerfully obey the instructions in reference to my residence at the Capital. - On the day after to morrow (Monday) I shall go up to Yedo to make the necessary preparations to that effect.

The most effective way of maintaining this right of residence is by going to Yedo and remaining there, by doing which I am sure I shall better be able to come to an understanding

with

with this Government in regard to the two remaining points mentioned in the Instructions — the indemnity question still undisposed of, and a land claim of Mr Schroyer an American Citizen, upon which the Council and Governor at this post failed to agree.-

In conclusion permit me to say, that with the exception of some four Years, during which the unfortunate Mr Heusken was Acting Secretary to this Legation, I have ever since I sailed from New York as Commodore Perry's Clerk in 1852 been connected with our Diplomatic business in this Country... I invariably succeeded in meeting with the approval of my Chiefs, enjoyed their confidence and was honored by their friendship.- My responsibility is now temporarily increased, but I am sure I shall succeed in meriting a continuance of that confidence, which I now beg to solicit from You.-

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully
Your most obedient Servant
A. L. C Portman.
Chargé d' affaires ad interim.

Tangiers April 28 1865

A. L. Putnam

Chargé d'affairs ad interim.

No 23.

1 Enclosure.

Received

Mr Perry's departure under leave of absence. My instructions.

US Legation in Japan.
April 28. 1865.

Sir.

In view of Your long acquaint-
ance with affairs in Japan, it is scarcely
necessary to give You any special in-
structions for the discharge of Your duties
while in charge of the Legation.

Your first duty will be to
cultivate friendly relations with the
Japanese Government. Let Your firmness
be ever tempered with kindness.

You will see from the instructions
given me and I can add from
personal knowledge it is the anxious
desire of the President that the most
cordial relations shall be preserved
with the Representatives of the Treaty
Powers. - You will keep this always

A.L. Portman Esq.
Chargé d'Affaires
ad interim in Japan

his views.

You are aware that during our unhappy civil war the position of Representative of the United States has been delicate and deprived in some measure of the aid of the prestige and reputation of the United States for great Power. He has found it necessary to combine tact with firmness and resolute convictions and declarations of the triumph of the National Cause in order to maintain the position to which he was justly entitled by the Station of his Country. You will as the legation is now furnished be better able if You live at Yedo, in the absence of National vessels to exert the influence to which You are entitled.

Hasten the despatch of the arbitration papers to the Emperor of Russia. - Hear any proposition the Japanese Government may make for the settlement of the claims, - but be careful not to be entrapped into protracted negotiations.

J.

If the whole amount is paid, - pay $2000 of the amount to Messrs Brown and Gallagh. - The balance divide as follows: - Send me $5000 for Mr Robertson, first paying T. Hall Esq. the Sum loaned to Mr Robertson to enable him to ~~enable~~ leave the Country, - $5500 to Mr Stearns, $4500 to Mr Schnyer. - If Mr Stearns is not Satisfied with this division convene a board for the distribution of Such balance. - to be composed of Yourself the Consul of Kanagawa, Mr Hall, Mr Gay and Mr Blydenburgh.

You will bend every energy to Secure a deed for the Schnyer lot and in both the above cases act in the Spirit of my written message to the Gorojio and carry out the instructions as to time and reporting to me as therein contained.

With my most Cordial wishes
I am Very Truly Yours.
Signed Robt H. Pruyn.
Minister Resident of the
United States in Japan. -

Enclosure No. 1.

with despatch No. 23.

Dated Kanagawa April 28. 1861.

Rec.d Aug. 31.

No 24

Mr Carlton

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa April 29. 1865.

Sir.

As stated in his despatch No 20 Mr Pruyn left Japan under leave of absence in the Mailsteamer Yesterday, leaving me in charge of this Legation as Chargé d' Affaires ad interim.

With Your despatch No 16 of July 2 1861 was transmitted my Commission as Interpreter to this Legation, but I always acted also as Secretary of Legation, the appointment as originally given me by Mr Townsend Harris then Minister, being that of Secretary, with the understanding, that I should also act as Interpreter. -

In either case whether as Secretary or Interpreter to Legation, under Section 10. or Section 9 of the Act to Regulate the

The Honorable
Wm H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

Diplomatic

Diplomatic and Consular Systems approved August 18. 1856., I beg respectfully to submit, that I consider myself entitled to receive additional Compensation from this date - and I have now the honor to request, that I may be authorized until relieved of the Charge of this Legation, to draw for such additional Compensation accordingly. -

I have the honor to be &c

Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant

A. L. Portman.
Chargé D'Affaires ad interim.

For my Salary as Secretary and Interpreter at the rate of $ 2500 per annum; deducting duty, a credit was opened in the name of the Minister, who drew Quarterly and from whom I hitherto received the net amount of those drafts. - Mr Pruyn has now authorized me to draw for my Salary as such myself, and Messrs Baring Brothers & Co have been advised to that effect. - As

this

At this perhaps may be considered in-
formal by those Gentlemen, I beg to request,
if needful, that You will cause instructions
on the subject to be sent to Messrs Baring
Brothers & Co and myself. -

Kanagawa April 29. 1865.

A. L. Portman
Chargé d'affaires ad interim

No 24.

No Enclosures

Received.

In reference to my additional
Compensation according
to law.

Rec.d Augt. 1.

W Fulton

No 25.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa, May 5th 1865

Sir

On monday the 1st instant I went to Yedo for the purpose of making preparations for returning my permanent residence there in obedience to instructions as stated in my despatch No 23.

The new building was nearly finished, and I already occupied two rooms of it.

Early on Tuesday morning I received a visit from several Governors for foreign affairs. They expressed great regret at Mr Pruyn's departure on account of ill health, and the wish on the part of their Government that he might soon recover and return to his post.

In this wish of the Japanese Government I cordially join them.

I succeeded in procuring a positive

The Honorable Wm H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

promise

promise, that the utmost possible despatch would be used in completing the buildings, according to the plans, with which they furnished me, - and being thus enabled to make an estimate of the furniture required, I returned for a few days to this place, to effect the necessary arrangements. -

I did not pay my respects to the Goroju on this occasion, Mitsuno Okumi no Kami the Senior Minister for Foreign affairs, who obtained from Hell the Taicoon a leave of absence for the purpose of going to Nikosan to pray at the tomb of his Ancestors, having expressed a wish, that I would wait until his return. To this obliging request I of course acceded at once. -

The most perfect order now prevails at Yedo, and within a few days I shall be able to inform You, that the Legation is permanently reestablished there.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant

A. L. Portman
Chargé d'affaires ad interim.

All Dolman
Chargé d'affaires ad interim

N 25.

No Enclosures.

Received.

Within a few days the Legation
to be permanently reëstablished
at Yedo.

Rec.d Dec.r 1.

Mr Chilton

N.26.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa May 10th 1865.

Sir,

By this mail I presume You will receive from Mr Pruyn translation of a letter of the Ministers for Foreign affairs, which I sent him for his information and for transmission to the Department, in which the Ministers request, that the ships of war munitions &c, which they desired to be procured in the United States, be sent out to them without delay. being urgently required at the present time for putting down the Civil Commotion, which in the case of the Prince of Nagato appears to have assumed already the proportions of open rebellion.-

This Prince who last Year at Simonoseki had all his forts dismantled and all his guns carried off by the Allied Fleet,

The Honorable Wm H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

now.

now suddenly professes a great friendship for foreigners. The value of such friendship may be readily estimated.

By last Mail I received a despatch with Enclosures from our Consul General at Shanghae, in reference to the transfer of the Steamer Lancefield, owned by the Prince of Nagato, through the Agency of the owner of the American Steamer Keetang, late the Monitor; Copies of which documents were no doubt forwarded already to the Department. I shall acknowledge the receipt of the same to Mr Seward by the first opportunity, and send you copies, by a vessel to leave for San Francisco in a few days, together with such further information as the next inward mail may bring, or I may gather from other reliable Sources.

A Governor for Foreign affairs applied to me for information on the subject, but I stated to him, that three days after the last Mail left Shanghae, Mr Pruyn must have arrived there, and in person Communicated with Mr Seward; - by the next inward Mail I expected to receive

Mr

Mr Pruyn's clear and explicit instructions, under which I would then be able to confer with him, - to which he readily assented. -

The designs of the Prince of Nagato is evidently by the aid of foreigners successfully to resist the Taicoon's lawful authority, - and I regret to say that there appears to be a tendency, in view of large profits to be realized, to afford such aid. -

The policy of the Taicoon, in furtherance of the very object for which the Expedition to Simonoseki last Year was undertaken by the Tow Powers, is to put down this rebellious Daimio of Nagato, whose resistance if successful and protracted may prove productive of serious complications. The Ships constructed in the United States would therefore now be of great service to the Taicoon, - and I beg respectfully to recommend, as Mr Pruyn has already done before, that they may be sent out to this Government with all possible despatch.

I have the honor to be &c.

Wm.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa May 10. 61.

A.L. Portman
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

No 26.

No Enclosure.

Received

Recommend that ships of
war be built with Japanese

Have respectfully
your most obedient servant
A.L. Portman
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

Rec. 16 Augt.

Mr Fulton

N 27.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa May 16 1865.

Sir.

It has been officially announced to me that at an early day His Majesty the Taicoon will leave Jedo to place himself at the head of the Army which is to act against the Prince of Choshu.

In view of the profound peace which has uninterruptedly prevailed in Japan for more than two Centuries, the Taicoons Government declared, that they felt disposed to deal leniently with this Prince, and facilitate by every means his return to his allegiance; - but his recent proceedings led to the suspicion, that he had met with some support; it was at first believed that Choshu would

The Honorable W H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

Comply

Comply, instead of which his resistance is now more marked than ever; - prompt action had therefore been resolved upon to carry out the Sentence by which he is to be shorn of all power hitherto possessed.

The Taicoon's Government felt confident of the result of this Military expedition, and added, when their internal difficulties shall have been disposed of, that it will be easier faithfully to observe the Treaties and cultivate friendly relations with the Treaty Powers.

I have the honor to be &c.

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A L Portman.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in Japan.

Rec.d aug.t 16

N.28.

Mr Fulton

Legations of the United States in Japan.
Kanagawa May 22nd 1865.

Sir,

As stated in my despatch N.26th of the 10th instant I intended by this opportunity to send You copies of the correspondence in relation to the unlawful proceedings of the American steamer Secretary at Simonoseki - but expecting at any moment to hear from the Ministers for Foreign Affairs on the Subject - and desiring the information to be laid before You to be as complete as possible, I shall do so by the mail which leaves in a few days.

I received Mr Pruyn's instructions from Shanghai and am now chiefly waiting for the action of the

The Honorable
W.H Seward.
Secretary of State
Washington.

Japanese

Japanese Government in connection herewith.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant
A. L. Portman.
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim
in Japan.

Rec. 16 Aug.

Legation of the United States.

Yedo. May 29. 1865.

W. Carleton

Sir,

By the mail which left this morning I informed Mr Pruyn (in London), that I had received a letter from the Japanese Ministers for Foreign Affairs, in which they request, that the Gunboat Fuji Yama, much needed at present, be sent to them at the earliest possible moment — and that the order for the two Ships of war, desired to be built in the United States, which Mr Pruyn recently stated could be made of any tonnage desired, and the building of which they therefore suppose has not been commenced at all, — may be cancelled, and the balance of the money

The Honorable

Wm H Seward

Secretary of State

Washington.

Returned

returned to them. In some shape or other it is evident they wish to close this business.

No one can feel more kindly and respectfully towards Mr Pruyn than I do; - his cheerful disposition, superior intelligence and very pleasing manners learned him many friends here; - the Japanese fully shared in this friendly feeling, and a great proof of this no doubt was the promptness with which they acted, when paying to Mr Pruyn the large sums of money he required to have ships built for them.

Allow me to give You briefly the history of this transaction from the beginning. - Mr Pruyn to have ships built was originally made to Mr Harris, who accepted it - but being shortly afterwards entrapped into a statement that his means were unlimited - the negotiation, money large sums being required by him to be paid in advance, fell through - He despatched Consul informing him of his resignation having been and of Mr Pruyn's appointment, - and it was then resolved to wait for Mr Pruyn's arrival.

I carefully watched the Japanese in the meantime, for fear of a transfer of the order to some other Country; - fully aware, that this was not only a matter of expenditure of a few hundred thousand dollars, - but that it might prove the first step towards modelling their Naval and Military services after those of the United States, and ultimately be the means of establishing more intimate and profitable relations between the two Countries.

Mr Krupp soon arrived, - he had the reputation of being very wealthy; - the first impression he made was exceedingly favorable, and the request to have those ships built was soon made to him. - My knowledge of Japan and of the language enabled me to influence the matter and hasten its consummation, - and I did so, Mr Krupp being naturally desirous that they should be built in the United States and nowhere else. - All the money he required was promptly paid into his hands. - The amounts were 600,000 Mexican dollars on account of ships, and 37000 Mex: dollars on account of other implements of war. - Here ships are to be delivered in 1863 - a one of them at all events, when the two others would promptly follow. -

You may easily imagine that the merchants

L

of every Nationality, most of whom never believe
that the Taicoon ever entertained a serious intent
of attempting the closing of the port of Kanagawa
and only looking to profit, have left no means
untried, in view, if possible, of securing valuable
contracts for themselves, to persuade the Japanese, th
they made a great mistake in entrusting the Kuny
with such large sums of money - for which they ha
nothing whatever to show" - this is the precise lan
used by those persons, I may say - every day w
speaking with Custom House Officials at the diffe
The Japanese know however, that the Kuzi Yame
been built and would have sailed - but for the
of the President, declining to grant her a clearan
in view of the political circumstances in Japan
Beyond this, Mr Kuyper himself did not appe
to have known anything about the matter. -
true that my instructions are when the Kuzi Ya
(expected soon) comes out here to collect money fr
the Japanese Government in the manner as follo
" as the whole estimated cost $800000 : $600000
"(the amount received); - so is the estimated c
"of Screw Steamboat $160000 to the amount paid off
"to it". = In addition I have to collect
of money to cover all her expenses out and for t
money home of all officers and crew.

My impression is, with all due respect for Messrs Reed and Lansing, whom I believe to be still in charge of the Russian interest in the matter, - that the information furnished by those Gentlemen has not enabled the Russian to form a correct idea of the precise state of affairs - and that in consequence the Japanese Government is left as much in ignorance as to my regret I must confess myself to be on the subject.

I must do the Japanese Government the justice to say, that they behaved most honorably in the matter, and in the face of rumours of the most injurious character, which even foreigners in authority had the audacity privately to whisper in their ears; - but at the same time I beg most respectfully to represent, in view of those rumours, to which the Russian's somewhat hasty departure without giving any clear explanation of any kind whatever has unfortunately given some color in the eyes of some of the Japanese Authorities - and in view of the great National interests upon which injustice however unfounded may yet exercise influence, - that it is highly desirable, that I

should be authorized to inform them of
of the precise state of affairs - and whether
when they can get either their ships or their
money refunded to them. - -

Recently a rumour was widely circu
at Yokohama, that Mr Pruyn's son, a ve
intelligent young gentleman, who has been
Japan on a visit, - had stated to a friend
New York not long ago, that the Navy Departm
had decided to employ the Kujiyama and
consequently Mr Pruyn would refund all th
money received to the Japanese Government;
& this rumour perhaps which suggested the fo
quent of this Government. - - There is not
slightest danger in my opinion in furnish
the Taicoon with all the ships and other imple
of war he may require; - - they are not likely
need for many years to come against any
Power, - but will simply enable him to main
his lawful authority and prevent ambitio
and foolish Princes from seceding; - and I a
sure that in his efforts to put down secess
You will sympathize with him.

Mr Pruyn was quite unwell when

left here - - I believe that the uncertainty in which he appeared to be concerning the ships of war lately constructed to render his illness worse; and sincerely hope, that travelling with the prospect of soon visiting his home again may be of benefit to him.-

I beg to assure You; that in addressing You this note on a subject of which foreigners of every Nationality have endeavored to avail themselves for the purpose of creating an Anti American feeling here; but mistaken success, that I am animated not no disrespect towards the Person, - but I felt it my duty to inform You of all the circumstances, and trust You will kindly approve of my having done so.-

I have the honor to be Sir
With great respect
Your most Obedient Servant.

A. H. Fortunay.

Mr Griffis file

Office U. S. Military Telegraph.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Following Telegram received at Washington, 7 a M. June 5 1865.

From Kanagawa Japan June 1865.

via San Francisco May 30

Hon Wm H Seward

Sec State

The Tycoon elects to pay indimnety first instalment half a million to be paid in August. Extension asked for second instalment one year the balance at intervals thereafter according to Convention minister advises against Extension

Robt H Pruyn

Minister Resident

in Japan

TELEGRAPH JUN 5 1865

60 Cal 8,90 pd 305

Recd. 29 Augt.

No. 29.

Legation of the United States in Japan.

Yedo. June. 1. 1865.

Sir

I have the honor to inform you that I have now been residing for some time in this Capital. - The Legation Building is not yet finished, but I trust, after the Taicoon's departure, during the preparations for which all officials of high and low degree had many extra duties to discharge, that I shall soon be able to effect a satisfactory arrangement in this respect.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A L Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ad interim in Japan.

The Honorable Wm H Seward

Secretary of State

Washington.

Rec? Aug? 29
No. 30.

W. Spillman

Legation of the United States in Japan.
Yedo. June 1. 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform You that I have this day issued a passport to Mr. J.W. Macenday (# 25) and to Mr. J.O. Wellman. -(# 26.)- the fees collected for which are duly placed to the credit of the United States, and will be accounted for in my next Quarterly returns for Contingent Expenses of this Legation.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant
A.L. Portman
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in Japan.

The Honorable. Wm H. Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

Rec.d 29 Aug.t
No. 31.

Mr Hilton

Legation of the United States in Japan
Yedo. June 8th. 1865.

Sir.

Among the unfinished business left me by Mr Pruyn was a claim by Mr R Schoyer an American Citizen for a titletext for a small lot of ground: situated near the Custom House at Yokohama.

In the vicinity of that Custom House are several Japanese houses built by the Japanese Government, originally intended by them for the accommodation of Custom House Officials.

The Custom House and the small official quarters are situated in the Centre of the Settlement, and divides the Foreign and Japanese towns of Yokohama.

The Honorable Wm H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

Wheeler

When the port of Kanagawa (Yokohama) was opened in 1859, foreigners on their arrival found but few houses built for their accommodation; - they therefore applied through their respective Consuls, and obtained from the Japanese Government such accommodation in that small official quarter as could be afforded, with the distinct understanding, that this arrangement should be a temporary one - and only last until ground should be prepared for foreign occupation by removal of the native land-holders &c. - No ground rent was charged therefor, but simply [underlined]some[/underlined] moderate terms. - There are yet several foreigners living in such houses; some of whom pay no more than four & five dollars rent per month, -

The house thus occupied by Mr Schnyer was originally divided in three parts; and let to Messrs Habenham & Stearns, Wetmore Snyder & Co and Mr A Schnyer. - When shortly afterwards ground was given to foreigners, the two firms mentioned &c, moved in compliance with the understanding

referred

deserved to; but Mr Schnyer remained in the house, the whole of which he appropiated for his business as an Auctioneer.- He has been repeatedly desired by the Japanese to surrender that building to them, but as notice of this was taken by him, except by claiming a titledeed for the lot on which that building stands,- on the ground that no land was ever granted to him.=

It is true, that while searching for proof, showing whether Mr Schnyer had or had not found allotted to him before; and which could not always be found when wanted; some of the Governors of Kanagawa in order to rid themselves of this troublesome matter stated, they were willing to make some concession.- Much- no doubt has occasionally been obtained from the Japanese which may be classed as ill gotten gains.- At one time, it appears they were willing to grant a lease conditionally, but to my knowledge they never agreed to grant Mr Schnyer a titledeed for the lot as claimed by him, in confirmation evidence of which stands out this fact that

they

they persistently refused to take possession, though repeatedly tendered, and only insisted upon payment of house rent, which after a small portion had been paid by Mr Schoyer, was further as repeatedly refused by him.

More than two years ago, when a large British fleet arrived here to demand indemnities for the murder of Mr Richardson, Mr Schoyer put up partitions in this house, subdividing it in eight or nine rooms, which he separately let at exorbitant rates to persons of various Nationalities, who ever since have kept on those premises Sailor taverns and boarding houses of the lowest description. - Murder was nearly committed there once; and may be committed there at any moment.

More than once Mr Schoyer was asked to remove, but he threatened to shoot the first Yakunin who in any manner would attempt to interfere with their establishment, though no such attempt was ever threatened, much less made.

Mr Schoyer by assaulting inoffensive

persons.

present in the public streets ~~and~~ in various ways make himself very obnoxious, and the Japanese Government Complain, that Mr Consul Fisher never heeded their Re" monstrances, and further state, that he proposed on behalf of Mr Schnyer to promise, that those disorderly establishments would at once be removed and a stone building erected on the Spot, provided they would grant him a titledeed for the lot, then showing, that the Continuance of this evil was principally with the Object of forcing the obtainment of a titledeed.

I regret to say, that under any Circumstances Mr Consul Fisher's action is very reprehensible in not restraining the violence of Mr Schnyer - and in making this proposition to the Japanese Government, which I must believe to be true, because he also made the same to me at a recent interview.

The Japanese Authorities claimed, that Mr Schnyer might have had a lot, as he was one of the earliest Settlers, and in Yokohama when on four different

occasions

occasions concessions of land to foreigners have been made; they also stated their belief that he actually did secure one lot, in which case he certainly, under existing Regulations could lay no claim to the grant of another lot of land. - ...

It was then agreed with Mr Pruyn, if Mr Schroyer had had land allotted to him, that the lot claimed would at once be surrendered. - the Japanese were to commence the burden of proof and they agreed to do so. -

After Mr Pruyn's departure I called immediately on the Japanese Government for their proofs, being most anxious to have this troublesome question disposed of, and thereby remove the ill feeling, which had grown out of its protracted discussion - and in a few days after they had sent to Yedo, where the Archives of the Custom houses are principally kept, and where they had recently been put in proper order - they produced strong evidence in support of their assertion: 1st Mr Schroyer's application found in his own handwriting and 2. a (triplicate) titledeed for a lot

showing

showing original grant to him on the 29th January 1862.

I then gave notice to Mr Schayer to this effect; who promised me, that his proofs in refutation would soon be forthcoming, which however was not the case. - After waiting several days, I addressed to Mr Fisher a letter, asking why possession of the lot in question should longer be withheld from the Japanese Government - a copy of which I transmit herewith Enclosure No 1. and received his replies (copies transmitted pp Nos 2 & 3 with 4 & 5 Subenclosures respectively. No 1 p 2.3

I also informed Mr Fisher of the receipt of a note by me from Mr Schayer in which he notifies me, "that he will "take active measures to protect himself "from action arising under my instructions", and of his statement, that in certain contingency he would cause the flag of the United States to fly over his property (meaning thus his orderly establishment) but this remained unnoticed by Mr Fisher.

Jon

You will perceive that I allowed again nearly two weeks to elapse for the purpose of giving Mr Fisher (and Schnyer) an opportunity for making a proposition wholly, in view of the angry discussion, which had taken place between himself and several Governors of Kanagawa on this subject, almost ever since he came to Japan, and in order if possible to save appearances — some arrangement, on the strength of more substantial evidence to be produced by him, might be arrived at.

When however no such evidence came, but only threats by Mr Schnyer unrestrained by Mr formal Fisher, I concluded that further moderation on my part would be mistaken for lack of vigour, and I then addressed to Mr Fisher my letter containing my decision. Copy of which I herewith transmit Enclosure No. 4. I beg to call No 4. Your attention to point 8 of the Japanese evidence showing, that Mr Fisher as far back as January 1863 was willing to waive the claim for a titledeed. — The evidence produced by the Japanese Authorities are not certified

Copies

Copies but original documents - titledeed, letters and all.

During the short time previous to his departure, that the matter was in Mr. Pruyn's hands, no such sifting of evidence could be readily arrived at; there was a difficulty of going through translations to begin with, - and Mr. Pruyn was moreover beset by the misrepresentations of Messrs Liebe and Schoyer - which I could better appreciate, having long resided in Japan, and been personally acquainted with Mr J Wilson, who was stated by Messrs Schoyer and Liebe to be the original grantee of the lot, which the Japanese Government claimed to have been originally granted to Mr. Schoyer - and from Mr Wilson's statements to me in those days I knew that for this once at least the Japanese Government stated the truth.

Friendly relations can only be maintained on a basis of honor and justice - and the first step towards maintaining American rights is undoubtedly by the removal of wrongs.

Yr

The present case was one which required prompt and vigorous action. In the face of right and justice Mr Schnyder, abetted by his Subservants of various Nationalities, maintained forcible possession of a house, which he never built, and which was only given him for temporary use at a low monthly rent; he has paid no rent for the last three years, but threatened to shoot any one who dares interfere with him; what he terms his undoubted right to, that lot in question a right, if any ever existed, which he clearly parted with by accepting another lot in the foreign town of Yokohama.

The foreign Consuls would long ago have removed their Subjects from their obnoxious establishments, but they derived their title from Mr Schnyder, who, I regret to say in his protracted course of violence and lawlessness was upheld by Mr Consul Eitel.

The respectable American Merchants at Yokohama fully recognise the justice of my decision, - and the Consuls of the foreign Powers also congratulate me on having delivered them from a standing embarrassment.

Mr. Consul Eitel is cognisant of the report

Report I feel it my duty to make to You, and I am inclined to believe, that he will also address You on the subject by this Mail. - I informed him, that I felt fully convinced, that You would approve of my action in this matter, which is not hasty or Summary as he terms it, but as I wrote him, - deliberately made - to be deliberately maintained. -

I have the honor to be Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant.

M. L. Portman.

Chargé d'Affairs ad interim in Japan.

Exo. June 8. 1865

Alf Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ad interim.

No. 31.

4. Enclosures

6. Sub Enclosures.

Decision of Schogen's claim for a title deed for a lot of land at Yokohama.

N: 56.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa May 20 1865.

Sir,

Several days ago I called on Mr. Schnyer at his residence, on which occasion I informed him, that it would be in his interest to produce such evidence as would show that the lot N. 97. (formerly N. 39) came into his possession by purchase.

Since then I addressed a note to Mr. Schnyer to the same effect, but no evidence, stated to be at your Consulate, has as yet been laid before me.

You are aware, that since you failed after protracted negotiation to agree with the Governor of Kanagawa on the subject of Mr. Schnyer's claim to the lot on the Tomagata machi — and this matter had according to the Treaty been referred to the Diplomatic Representatives for Settlement with the Japanese Government, — an agreement was entered

Geo. I. Fisher Esq.
U.S. Consul
Kanagawa.

into

ition by Mr Pruyn with the Government to the effect that if any lot at this place had already been granted to Mr Schoyer, the lot in question would at once be given up. - His agreement I was specially called to witness.

It is my duty to protect Mr Schoyer in his just rights - and nothing will give me greater pleasure than to have it in my power to do so; - but under my instructions I have to act promptly in order to remove an injustice of long standing - either to Mr Schoyer, if no lot was ever granted him - or to the Japanese Government, if, as they claim lot N 97 (formerly N 39) was actually granted to Mr Schoyer - and which the titledeed originally vested in him - and other evidence, I regret to say - would go far to show.

I have therefore the honor to request You to inform Mr Schoyer - that if within four days from date (Wednesday next the 24th instant by Noon) no evidence be laid before me showing why possession of the lot in question should longer be withheld from the Japanese Government, I shall consider that no such evidence can be

produced

produced and under my instructions act accordingly.

I am Sir

respectfully

Your obedient servant

(signed) A. L. Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ad interim in Japan.

Enclosure N. 1.
with dispatch N. 311
dated Los. Jnos. 8. 1865.

Counulate of the US of America
Kanagawa Japan May 20. 1865

N. 144.

Sir

Your Communication of this date in relation to the Schooner having received a lot of ground in this Settlement from the Japanese Authorities, and his claim to the lot now in dispute commonly known as American lot N. 25 and by the Japanese authorities is received - and I herewith enclose to You N. 1 and 2 copies of letters N 85 and 87 sent by me to the Governor of Kanagawa respectively dated April 4th and 5th of this year. -

I also enclose to You the original receipt (evidence of title and the only one at that date of any kind given to foreign residents by agreement between the Consuls and Governor of Kanagawa of Capt Vyse. H.B.M. Consul. Dated 16 August 1861. I given to Mr J Wilson for the premium paid by him for the lot then called N. 39 now N 97. - marked N. 3 which

A L Portman Esq.
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

You

You will please return to me when You have done with the same.

And I further endose to You my Certified copy of a deed recorded in the Consulate Record Book A. of deed page 46 by Mr J Wilson to Mr R Schnyer consideration $1350 dated 27th December 1861. marked N. 4.

There several documents conclusively show that lot N 39 was originally given by the Japanese Government through the Council to Mr John Wilson - and that it was duly sold and transfered by him for a valuable Consideration to Mr R Schnyer and that further this same lot then N 39 is now N 97.

I also state to You as a fact that Mr Wilson's name is on the original Custom House map - and that the Japanese Governors well know the original grant was made to Mr John Wilson and to no other person.

The notice desired given to Mr Schnyer will be communicated by me to him this day. -

I have the honor to be Sir

Very respectfully
Your obedient servant
Signed Geo. L. Linder
Lt Colonel.

Enclosure No. 2.
with despatch No. 31.
dated Yedo June 8th 1865.

(4. Sub Enclosure)

Mr Fisher to Mr Portman.

N 87. Consulate of the U.S. of America
Kanagawa Japan. April 5th 1865.

Sir.

The Land Officer of the Custom House this day informs me that he cannot find in the Custom House record any evidence that lot N 39 of the first concession now N 97 was given by the Japanese Authorities to Mr John Wilson, who sold to Mr Schnyer the same lot.

There was and must be now on record there!

1st Mr Wilson's original application for lot N 39.

2. The old map showing his name written on the lot.

3rd The approval of Capt Vyse then Hdl. Consul. also Mr Polhoek and Mr Dorr's approval and

4th A Memorandum that the lot was given to Mr Wilson 24th December 1860.

In August 1861. the lots in the new Concession were renumbered & the British Consulate when Capt Vyse for the Consul and Governor of Kanagawa gave to Mr Wilson the same kind of a receipt as to all others to whom lots were given in the New Concession, the original of which is now before me and read as follows, viz

"Received from Mr J Wilson the Sum
"of two hundred and sixty five Mexican dollars,

being

" being the premium for lot N 39. in the New
"Concession at Yokohama

$ 265.-

Signd: J Howard Vyse

(Seal of the British Consulate) H Balli Consul.

Kanagawa 16th august 1861.

Your attention is particularly called to the fact that when this new Concession was laid out and numbered into lots the lot now occupied by Mr Lepsius was N 20 old and now by new renumbering his lot became N 39 and now is known by that Number and that Mr Wilsons lot then called N. 39 was changed to N 97. and now is known as N 97.

Also that when printed deeds or certificate of title were given Mr Benson then acting U.S. Vice Consul procured the U.S. deed. direct to Mr Schnyer and this is the way the deed for 97. came to be given him

I should also repeat that he paid Mr Wilson the Sum of $ 1350 Mexican dollars for his title to the lot N 97.

Dated with respect and courtesy

Signd / Joel Linker

U.S. Consul

To

Shizaishi Sinnosuke Kanrin

Governor of Kanagawa

a true copy

Signd J A V Schepel.

Acting Clerk.

Consulate of the U.S. of America
Kanagawa Japan. April 4. 1865

N 86.

To the Governor of Kanagawa

The lot N 97. on a more close examination I find to have been numbered on the original Consular plan N 39 and was granted by the then Governor of Kanagawa to an American named Mr J Wilson who sold the same to Mr Schnyer on the 27th day of December 1861 for $ 1350 Mexican - and is so recorded in the Consular Record Book A page N 46 - Your new deed for the same was given to Mr Schnyer 29th January 1862.

The certificate of the Acting Consul Howen shows that Mr Maitland's lot was 106 and it was sold to Mr Schnyer in the Year 1862 - Mr Schnyer had got the two lots confused that is - his recollection was that Maitland's lot was 97 and Wilson's 106 - but it seems it was just the reverse.

Mr Schnyer therefore has never received from the Japanese Government one inch of ground except the lot now in dispute

Called

Called A. 25.

Wit expert.

Signed/ Geo. Fisher.

Ufound

a true copy.

Signed/ J. M. Schepel.

Acting Clerk

Received from Mr J Wilson the sum of two hundred sixty five Mexican dollars, being the premium for lot N 39 in the new Concession at Yokohama

$ 265.-

(Consulate) /Signed/ F Howard Wyse.
H Britt Consul.

Kanagawa
16th August 1861.

From my experience in connection with the allotment of land at Yokohama, I have no doubt. Seeing Capt Wyse's acquittance for the receipt of the entrance fee of $ 265 from Mr J Wilson, that lot N 39 in the new Concession was originally allotted to Mr J Wilson who paid the entrance fee.-

Signed/ Philip B Walsh.

British Consulate.
April 5th, 1865

I the Undersigned do hereby certify that the above written Philip B Walsh has Subscribed the above in my presence and I fully coincide in his opinion

Signed/ Marcus Flowers
H.M. Acting Consul.

H.M. Consulate.
Kanagawa April 5, 1865.

John Wilson Deed to lot N 39.

to

R Schoyer

Know all men by these presents that I John Wilson of Kanagawa Japan in consideration of the sum of thirteen hundred and fifty dollars to me in hand paid by Raphael Schoyer of the same place, the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, have bargained, sold and quit claimed and by these presents do bargain sell and quitclaim unto the said R Schoyer and to his heirs and assigns forever all my right, title interest estate claim and demand of in and to all that certain piece or parcel of land situate in the New Concession of the town of Yokohama and known as lot Number thirty Nine, bounded on the North and East by two streets on the South by lot occupied by Norris - and on the West by lot occupied by Bagley with all and singular the hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging.

In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twenty seventh

seventh day of December A.D. eighteen hundred and sixty one.

Signed John Wilson (L.S.)

Consulate of the U.S. of America
Kanagawa Japan.

On this 27th day of December A.D. eighteen hundred and sixty one before me E.M. Dow U.S. Consul personally appeared John Wilson known to me to be the same person described and who executed the within and foregoing deed and acknowledged to me that he executed the same freely and voluntarily and for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.

Given under my hand and the seal of the U.S. Consulate of Kanagawa this 27th day of December 1861.

Signed E.M. Dow.
U.S. Consul.

A true copy from the records of this Consulate May 20. 1865.

Signed Geo. S. Fisher
U.S. Consul.
Kanagawa.

Consulate of the US of America
Kanagawa Japan May 22. 1865.

No. 157.

Sir,

With this You will please receive copy of a letter received by me from Mr L Schnyer in regard to the notification You denied me to give him and which I did on the 20th instant marked Enclosure No 1 1/1

I also enclose copy of Mr Schnyer's affidavit this day made and filed in this Consulate as to his never having received any land or lot from the Japanese Authorities a government marked enclosure No 2 - - and You will do me the favor to inform me whether the evidence heretofore and now transmitted You is or is not by You deemed entirely satisfactory and ex-forever settling the point in issue! 2/2

I have the honor to be
Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
Geo. L. Fisher
US Consul.

Alf Portman Esq
Chargé d' affairs ad interim.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of an official Notice (N°5) dated this day addressed to You by Alf Fortunately Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in Japan in reference to the production of certain papers in connection with Compound N°97 formerly N°39 in which I find the following clause: "I have therefore the "honor to request You to inform Mr Schnyder that "if within four days from date (Wednesday next "the 24th instant) no evidence be laid "before me showing why possession of the lot in "question should longer be withheld from the "Japanese Government, I shall consider that no "such evidence can be produced and undertake "instructions act accordingly".-

This extraordinary notice has taken me by surprise. the Chargé d'Affaires N.I in an apparent friendly manner called on me on the 14th instant stating that he wished me to place in his hands certain documents above referred to. Those documents being in Yokohama, I applied for them on the 17th instant having been all in the interim and were ready on the 19th instant. but You

To Col. Geo. L. Fisher
U.S. Consul Kanagawa.

Yokohama May 20th 1861.

absence

absence prevented me from handing them to the Chargé d'Affaires above referred to. You will observe that there was no unnecessary delay on my part and only one day was lost at the Consulate caused by your temporary absence. The first official notice I received that proof should be filed at the Legation is the one I have now the honor to acknowledge. I respectfully submit to the Chargé d'Affaires AD if it is just that notice to produce proof within four days one of which being Sunday should have been accompanied with the remark that "I shall consider that no such evidence can be produced if not produced by Wednesday the 24th instant by Noon." - Recollect that these quotations are from the first official Notice I had the honor to receive. I would respectfully remind the Chargé d'Affaires AD that the property in question is of great value. That I have had uninterrupted and peaceable possession for over four Years - that the title has only recently been disputed - that the boundaries alone were the subject in dispute - that at least three Governors had conceded the boundaries. that H Bell Minister Plenipotentiary pronounced my title to the lot beyond dispute.

I

I would further suggest to the Chargé d'affaires that the question of my claim to the lot was considered of sufficient importance to appeal the aid of the English and French Ministers and did not deserve to be treated in such a summary manner.

I therefore feel it my duty to protest to any and all proceedings adverse to my claim to the lot known as American N. 25 in a summary manner and against any final action calculated to divest me of my rights in the lot in question in the absence of the Minister Resident without having all the proceedings first submitted to the U.S. Government, and I respectfully request that You will furnish the Chargé d'affaires A.I. in Japan with a copy of this communication and protest - that it may be recorded in the Archives of the American Legation in Japan.

I have the honor to be
Your very obt Servant
Signed/ A Schnyler.

A true copy.
Signed/ J. A. H. Schepel.
Acting Clerk

Sub Enclosure N 1
and Enclosure N 3.
and Report N 31.
Dated Fort Monroe 8th 1865.

Consulate of the U.S. of America
Kanagawa Japan May 22. 1865.

On this day and date aforesaid personally came before me George. S Fisher Consul of the United States of America for Kanagawa and the dependencies thereof Raphael Schyer, who being duly sworn on his oath deposes and says that he has never received from the Japanese Authorities of this Port or the Government of Japan one foot of ground within the jurisdiction of the dominions of the Tycoon - and that he has never received a deed or deeds of any ground whatever from any person or persons within this Consular jurisdiction - other than for those pieces and parcels of land he now holds by actual purchase from parties who derived their titles by purchase or gift from the Japanese Authorities or Government and that the lot N 97 which he now owns was purchased and paid for as is stated in the deed from Mr John Wilson - the original grantee to him and is now on record in the United States

Consulate

Consulate at this Port.

Signed / A Schayer. -

No 61.

Legation of the United States in Japan.
Yedo. June 5. 1865.

Sir,

I have carefully examined the evidence laid before me in the case of Mr Schoyer's claim for a titledeed for the lot on the Komagatamachi at Yokohama now occupied by him.

The fact to be established as clearly set forth in my letter addressed to You on the 20th Ultimo (No 56) is whether Mr Schoyer has or has not had ground allotted to him by the Japanese Authorities of Kanagawa (Yokohama).

The evidence submitted on behalf of Mr Schoyer and transmitted with Your letters No 144 and No 151 dated the 26th and 27th Ult respectively is:

1. Copy of Your letter (No 87) to the Governor of Kanagawa dated 5th April 1865.
2. Copy of Your note to the same dated April 4th 1865.

Geo. S. Fisher Esq
Consul
Kanagawa.

3/ Original receipt dated August 16. 1861. by Captain Vyse. then H.B.M. Acting Consul at Kanagawa for $265.- as premium from Mr J. Wilson an American Citizen for lot N. 39 (now N 97) in the New Concession at Yokohama.

4/ A copy from the records of Your Consulate signed by Mr Dorr your predecessor and certified by Yourself under the Consular Seal, showing transfer of lot N 39 (now N 97) by Mr J Wilson to Mr R Schnyder.-

5/ Copy of a communication of Mr Schnyder to Yourself "protesting to any and all proceedings" "adverse to his claim".-

6/ Copy of Mr Schnyder's affidavit to the effect that he never received "one foot of ground" "within the jurisdiction of the dominions" "of the Tycoon".-

The evidence submitted on behalf of the Japanese Government consists of:

1" The application of Mr Schnyder for a lot of ground - showing that all applications ever made are still on file at the Custom House at Kanagawa.-

2. A statement that there is nothing to show that any application for ground was ever made

by

by the J. Wilson. - and that if made at all there is nothing to show that it was approved by the Council.

3. That statement that Mr Thorpe has repeatedly been notified to pay rent for the house standing on the lot in question - and that he only paid $225 in all for house rent, during all the time it was occupied by him, leaving a balance due from him up to the 4th Japanese month of this year inclusive of $1029 - and that payment of such backrent was as repeatedly refused by him; - and also that no Ground Rent was ever taken from him.

4. That there is no old map at the Custom House showing Mr Wilson's name written on lot N. 39. - or any other lot.

5. That this lot N. 39 (now N 99.) was not and could not have been given to Mr J. Wilson on the 24th December 1860. - as stated in Your letter to the Governor of Kanagawa of the 5th April 1865. - because that lot had no existence at that time - and it was not until the 4th Japanese month of Sei (June or July 1861.) that the Council of the Treaty Powers were notified by the Governor of Kanagawa that

the

Swampland some 4650 tsubo – an extension
to the new Concession in which lot N: 39 was
situated had been filled up – and was prepared
for foreign occupation.

6/ That the $ 265. paid for each lot in the
New Concession to the Japanese Land Office at
Kanagawa produced a fund which was
applied towards indemnifying the Native
Landholders and defraying their expenses of
removal to Homura – and that when this
extension to the new concession was placed with
the hands of the Council for distribution – the fund
having been found sufficient for the purpose
which had then been accomplished, no such
premiums of $ 265 pr lot was required by the
Japanese Authorities – and none was tendered
by the Council – and that this is an
additional reason why they must decline
to recognise the action of Captain Vyse & Mr Bells
Acting Consul at that time in receiving such
premiums as binding upon them & conferring
any title upon Mr J Wilson.

7. That the lot N 39 (now N 97) was originally
granted to Mr Schoyer as shown by the title deed
and that having received one lot already,

there

there is no reason why another lot should be granted to him.

8. You letter to the Governor of Kanagawa in reference to the Komagatamachi lot in question dated January 21. 883. in which you say "if "deed be granted the end of the building in the "rent or agent will be removed and all "backrents paid. - If a deed cannot be granted "then a lease may be given but one or other "should now be finally settled". - and the statement by the Governor of Kanagawa based on the foregoing that You knew at the time You wrote that letter that Mr Schnyer had no claim to a titledeed, else You would not in any manner have waived or offered to settle it by Compromise.

The evidence before me is therefore quite conflicting. - Mr Schnyer claims that the lot N 39 (now N 97) came into his possession by purchase from Mr J Wilson - and the Japanese Government claim that no lot was ever granted by them to Mr Wilson - and hence that Mr Schnyer could not come into possession of it by purchase from him, but that Mr Schnyer was the original grantee as shown by the titledeed issued to him as such on

the

the 29th January 1862.— and that whatever transaction may have passed between Mr Schnyer and Mr Wilson is no concern to them.

From the careless manner in which records must have been kept by Mr Dorr his predecessor principally arising no doubt to his severe and continued illness (and indeed until I saw your certified copy from the Consular records showing transfer of lot N 39 by Mr Wilson to Mr Schnyer on the 27th December 1861 the day of Mr Dorr's departure from Japan I was not aware of any records having been kept by him at all) — I concluded a few days ago to ascertain myself at H Britt's Consulate at Kanagawa in what manner lot N 39 had been granted, when I received a statement from H Britt Vice Consul Mr L Fletcher that Mr Schnyer was the original grantee of lot N 99 formerly N 39 and that no other name is on record at the British Consulate in connection with it.

This fully corroborates the statement of the Japanese Government,

Under the existing land Regulations lots could not be transferred within one year after

the

the date of title deed - and a transfer by Mr Wilson in December 1865 could not have been valid; as it is beyond doubt that no land could have been granted him in December 1860. as stated in Your letter to the Governor of Kanagawa of the 5th April 1865 - not only because the land did not then exist, but also because Mr Wilson was not then residing at Yokohama but at Yedo - and in the employ of Count d'Eulenburg the Prussian Envoy as a photographer.

I was well acquainted with Mr Wilson having met him both at Yedo and Yokohama. I also know that Mr Wilson was anxious to leave Japan and had not only stated this on more than one occasion, but he applied through the Consul. Mr Dorr to this Legation for a passport, which was ultimately granted him; - he was not a bonafide resident and could not comply with the property qualification required of applicants for ground. - and as such his application could not have met with Mr Dorr's approval.

But Mr Roger did apply; his application is before me; it was approved and officially announced, as appears from an authenticated statement also before me, that he was entitled

to

to procure a lot on the same reasonable terms as the other early applicants. – Instead however of securing a lot for $265. it seems that he purchased only a vacant lot from Mr J Wilson for $1350. –

At all events it is quite clear that nothing is produced in support of Mr Wilson's title, but the receipt from him for $265– by Captain Vyse. H.M. Commissioner at that time; – this receipt confers no title and cannot be admitted in evidence as such, particularly in the absence of any receipt by Mr Wilson from Mr Schayer for the $1350. above referred to.

Mr Wilson had no title and therefore had no title to transfer. –

It is quite true that no foreigner ever did receive "one foot of ground within the "jurisdiction of the dominions of the Sircar". – it is the title to lease for which a deed is given – and ground was not given by the foot but generally by lots of from 400 to 500 cubits each. –

In the absence of any title of Mr J Wilson, Mr Schayer must be considered as

original.

original frontier of lot № 97. (formerly № 39).
according to the titledeed he holds. — and as
under the agreement entered into by Mr
Pemple with the Japanese Government: which
is simply confirmatory of the Land Regulations
in force. Mr Schnyer could only claim the front
of one lot and no more. — it follows that the
lot or the Komafatamatchi now occupied
by him must at once be surrendered.

You will therefore please cause notice
to be given to this effect to Mr Schnyer: and
also to those persons who now occupy those
premises as Subtenants through their respective
Consuls, — that from this date no more rent
is to be paid by them thenceforth to Mr Schnyer
— and it then only remains for those Consuls
in conjunction with the Governor of Kanagawa
to determine if any & what time shall
be granted to those occupants for their
final removal.

I shall to day inform the Tycoon of my
decision and cause instructions to be given by
them to the Governor of Kanagawa in
accordance therewith.

I am &c

Your Obedient Servant.

Signed Alf Bateman.

Chargé d'Affairs ad interim in Japan

Rec^d Aug^t 29.

No. 32.

Mr Chilton

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo June 9 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith No 1. translation of a letter from the Minister for Foreign affairs informing me of the departure this day of the Taicoon for the purpose of placing himself at the head of his Army which is to suppress the rebellion of the Prince of Choshu. No 1.

This army is to gather contingent forces from various Daimios on its way, and on arrival on the scene of action, it is estimated will fully muster 100.000. fighting men.

There appears to be much uncertainty in regard to the attitude of several Daimios, in the vicinity of Nagato, whose position as yet is not sufficiently defined - but there

The Honorable Wm H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

appears.

appears also to prevail an impression, that the presence of so large a force will by itself be found sufficient to overawe not only the Prince of Choshiu, but also such other Daimios, who are now more or less wavering in their allegiance. — and that the solution of all internal difficulties is now near at hand.

I have the honor to be Sir.

Very respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A L Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ad interim at Japan

To Alf Pottman Esq^re
Chargé d'affaires of the
United States of America
&c. &c. &c.

We have to inform you that to
morrow the 16th day (9th June). His Majesty
the Tycoon will leave Yedo by land for the
purpose of punishing the Prince of Nagato
and Suwo - and that Bungo no kami, Suwo
no kami and Tatibana Idzumo no kami will
leave at the same time as His Majesty's
Suite.

Dated with respect and esteem:
the 15th day of the 5th month of the
1st year of Ke-O. - (8th June 1865.)

Signed/ Midzuno Idzumi no kami
Abe Bungo no kami
Matsudaira Suwo no kami.

Rec.d 29 Aug.t

Mr Chilton

No. 33.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Yedo. June 10th 1865.

Sir,

As soon as intelligence was received here that the President had approved the Pacific Mail Steamship Company bill, I united with the Ministers of France and Chargé d'Affaires of Great Britain in applying to the Government for a lot of land suitable for a Coal depôt for each of the three Steamship Companies. - It is expected that at an early day the French Company of the Messageries Impériales will like the British Peninsular and Oriental Steamship Company make Yokohama the terminus of their line

I have now the honor to inform

The Honorable Wm H. Seward.
Secretary of State
Washington.

You

You that I received a letter from the Government to the effect that the Governor of Kanagawa has been authorized to grant a lot for that purpose.

I am aware that our Pacific Mail Steamship Company is not expected to go into operation before 1867, but in view of the increasing prosperity and Commercial importance of Yokohama, a suitable lot might not then be procurable except at a heavy outlay.

I hope You will be pleased to approve of my action in this matter.

I have the honor to be &c

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A L Portman.

Chargé d' Affaires ad interim.

in Japan. -

Rec. 29 augt.
N: 34.

Mr Pruyn

Legation of the United States in Japan
Yedo. June 10th. 1865.

Sir,

I greatly regret to be compelled to transmit herewith N: 1. copy of a letter addressed to me by Mr Fisher the Consul at Kanagawa, in which he informs me of serious charges against me which by this mail he proposes to lay before You - and I can only say that those charges, which as he states are based on an affidavit by Mr Banks the US Marshall are utterly unfounded. N:1

Not long ago Mr Banks under orders of Mr Fisher on the arrival of the Mail seized my letters at the Post Office, and nearly a whole day elapsed before they were sent to me by Mr Fisher who actually opened one of them, and then stated this to me in writing! - I passed this over

The Honorable Wm H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

though

though. You will admit, that there was strong provocation in this high handed act of Mr Fisher. - A few days later, and without any previous notice whatever, he send the same Mr Banks, who, though A Marshall only acts as his servant and no more, to remain in Jedo under his written instructions for two or three days at my guest to be entertained by me at my expence!

Under these circumstances I had no other alternative than to send Mr Banks back again to Yokohama - not rudely and passionately, - no one could be rude or passionate towards so inoffensive a person as Mr Banks - but quietly though firmly - and with the expression of my regret: after reading his written instructions, that he should have allowed himself to be used by Mr Fisher in attempting to carry out instructions, which he might well have known that I could not comply with nor even recognize. -

You will clearly perceive from Mr Fisher's letter, the tone of which speaks for itself, that the real cause of the

embarassing

embarassing action he has seen fit to adopt is due to my declining to act in all matters under his advice; - and my declining to do so is simply owing to the conviction, that he has neither the ability, the manners nor the integrity, as shown by the course pursued by him in Mr Schayer's case, to be a desirable Counsellor under any circumstances.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A L Portman.

Chargé d' Affaires ad interim in Japan.

Yds. June 10. 1861.

A. L. Portman.

Acting Vice Consul ad interim

No. 37.

1 Enclosure

Received.

Extraordinary charges by
Mr Consul Fisher.

Consulate of the United States of America
Kanagawa Japan. June 8th 1865.

Sir,

I have received at 12 M your note of Yesterday the 7th dated 11 A.M. wherein You do me the great honor and favor indeed in giving me full liberty to write to You. This it really quite a privilege and I need not assure - I prize it very highly and sincerely trust it may be of advantage to us mutually.

In relation to your reticency and not discussing matters of public intent with myself, particularly your most astounding procedure in the case of Mr Schoyer, I am not more surprised than others except so far as to Your doing directly contrary to my own, Mr Roches and Mr Winchesters understanding of Your instructions from Genl. Pruyn to insist upon the Japanese immediately

Hon. Lewis Jerome Esq. 1865.

M. J. Portman Esqr
&c &c &c.

Fulfilling

fulfilling their promise of a full settle-
ment of that case. - So far as I am
concerned You can and of course will
consult with me or not as You may
think best suits Your high authority and
dignity always bearing in mind in
all courtesy that a short horse is soon
curried" . - What I have written You
was in the kindest Spirit and for Your
good only, but if You choose to mis-
interpret it and to continue Your in-
sulting messages, they will be treated
as paper bullets usually are and the source
whence they come be duly reported. I
shall not remove Mr Schleyer nor will You,
and the case being appealed from Your de-
cision will go to Washington with the
fullest particulars.

I shall also take occasion to send
a full and ... statement of the most
ungentlemanly course pursued by You towards
Mr Banks Ld Marshall on his being sent
by You so rudely and unauthorizedly from
Yedo on the 29th May last, wherein You
will excuse me for saying You not only

displaced

disgraced Yourself in the eyes of Your in-
vited guests to Yedo whom Mr Banks had
piloted there by my orders because it was
the only possible way for them to get there,
but also in the eyes of the Japanese officials
many personally known to Mr Banks, and
who not only saw but specially noticed
your looks conduct and speech on that
occasion and made notes of it.

Mr Macondray one of the most respected
Merchants of San Francisco denied much to
see Yedo; as it would probably be the only
opportunity he would ever have of going
there and instead of sending through myself
as Mr Harris or Mr Pruyn would have done
You imprisoned Mr. D. Hall to be Your Guard
and sent a message for escort through him
to this Custom House. - Immediately the
officers came to me to know what it
meant. - After much discussion and three
several messengers it was found the Tokaido
could not be used on that day for Mr
Macondray and party to go up and as he
must go that day or not at all because
he was to sail for San Francisco thursday

June

June 1st at daylight. I could only get him there by sending up the Consular boat under the flag with Mr Banks. — On his arrival You not only insulted him but myself rudely and passionately unbecoming an Officer and Gentleman. — You stopped to make no enquiry and though properly and politely saluted by Mr Banks Commanded his silence and at once shamefully ordered him to "go back whence You came". I will teach Mr Fisher he has not got the Krupp to deal with — that he has no business here either" &c &c.

Mr Banks is a regularly Commissioned Officer of the US Government and has been an attaché of this Consular service about as long as You have of the US Legation service and his rank is but little if — inferior to Your own real rank. — He has always treated You courteously and respectfully; and without a remonstrance except to myself on his return properly obeyed Your Commands on that occasion.

Unless You deem proper to apologize to him his affidavit will be sent to

Washington

Washington. – Your Spite at me stunt
relieved You and I pass it by.
I am Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
Signed Geo S Tiber.

Enclosure N. 1
with despatch N. 34
dated Yedo June 10. 1865

Mr. Fisher to Mr. Portman.

Rec.d 23 Sept.r
No: 35.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Yedo. June 20.th 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith No. 1. copy of a letter from H Bell's Chargé d' Affaires, and No 2. copy of my reply in reference to the atrocious assassination of Mr Lincoln. No 1 No 2

The extreme fiendishness of that deed and of the attack on Yourself paralyzes the judgment - and I can only pray that You may have entirely recovered.

I have the honor to be. Sir
Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant

A L Portman.
Chargé d' Affaires ad interim.
in Japan

The Honorable.
Wm H Seward.
Secretary of State
Washington.

No 52

Yokohama June 19. 1865.

Sir,

It is with unusual emotion that I propose to discharge the duty of expressing the sentiments of profound pain and regret which the confirmation of the intelligence of Mr Lincoln's atrocious assassination has caused me in common with all Her Majesty's Subjects in this Country.

That such a deed should have been perpetrated by one of our common race is in itself sufficient reason for the profound indignation which this great crime has excited in the hearts of Englishmen. - And I can only express my sincere hope that Providence in permitting the removal of so good a man under circumstances so awful,

A. L. Portman Esq.
Chargé d'affaires ad interim of the United States
in Japan.

from the task of composing the difficulties necessarily following civil warfare, will take up other instruments for carrying it out in the humane spirit of the deceased President.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant,

Signed Charles A Winchester

H Bill Chargé d'Affaires

in Japan.

No 70.

Legation of the United States in Japan
June 20 1865

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your letter of Yesterday, expressing the sentiments of profound pain and regret which in Common with all Englishmen in Japan You felt at the intelligence of the atrocious assassination of Mr Lincoln.

I shall transmit a copy of Your Communication to my Government. -

Expressions like these of the enormity of the crime Committed and the immensity of the loss sustained will be received in their affliction by the people of the United States in the Same Spirit in which they are tendered, and cannot fail under Providence to contribute in cementing the

Chas A Winchester Esq Jr
H Brit: Chargé d' Affaires
in Japan.

Feelings.

feelings of goodwill which I sincerely trust and pray may forever subsist between our respective Countries.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

Signed A L Portman

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

of the United States in Japan.

Rec.d 23 Sept.r

No. 36.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Yedo. June 24.th 1865.

No.

I have the honor to transmit herewith No 1. Copy of a Memorandum signed on the 21.st instant by the Representatives of the four Powers, who in September last adopted the policy of reopening the Inland Sea; closed against foreign vessels by the aggressions of the Prince of Choshiu at Simonoseki; which policy was crowned with success and met with the approval of their respective Governments.

The present Memorandum is in continuation of that policy, in view of the approaching operations of the Taicoon

The Honorable
Wm H. Seward
Secretary of State
Washington

at

at the head of his Army for the Suppression of the rebellion of the Prince of Choshu, - and with the object of securing the observance of strict neutrality

I trust You will be pleased to approve of my action

I have the honor to be &c

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A. L. Portman.

Chargé d' Affaires ad interim in Japan.

Memorandum

Choshiu Prince of Nagato being in a state of overt insurrection against the Taicoon - and His Majesty the Taicoon having resolved to march himself at the head of an Army intended to reduce his contumacious vassal to obedience. civil war is imminent, and from the situation of its theatre may to a certain extent compromise the interests of the Treaty Powers by impeding the free navigation of their vessels through the Straits of Simonoseki.

In presence of this state of things the representatives of the four powers subscribing the Convention of the 22nd October 1864. have met for the purpose of consulting as to the measures it may be convenient to adopt for protecting the interests of their countrymen, - and securing the results contemplated by the expedition successfully directed by their respective Naval forces against the batteries of Simonoseki in September 1864.

This meeting took place on the 21st

June

June 1865. and the following is the result of the joint deliberations of the Undersigned.

Considering that the batteries erected by the Prince of Nagato in the Straits of Simonoseki were employed to prohibit the free navigation of the Inland Sea to Foreigners and were disarmed by the Commanders of the Allied fleet who imposed upon the prince the formal obligation not to rearm them

Considering that the allied fleet have not renounced the occupation of a military position in the Straits save on the formal obligation accepted by the Government of the Taicoon to guarantee the free navigation of the Straits to foreign vessels.

Considering moreover that while the rules of a wise policy require of the powers signing the Convention to avoid every act of intervention in the conflict which has just commenced between the Taicoon and the Prince of Nagato, their treaty relations of friendship and Commerce which exist only with the Taicoon require from them the moral support and facilities necessary to the exercise of the rights acknowledged

by

by such treaties to belong to the Taicoon.

In these reasons the Undersigned have adopted with one accord the following articles and are agreed that copy of this memorandum shall be addressed to the Commanders of the Naval forces of their respective Nations now present or hereafter to arrive in Japan.

Article I.

In the interval which will elapse before the land and sea forces of the Taicoon shall present themselves in the Straits of Simonoseki the Naval Commanders of the powers parties to the Convention of the 22nd October, ought in virtue of that Convention to oppose the disarmament of the batteries of the Prince of Nagato in the said Straits or even to proceed to their disarmament if the Daimio should have disarmed them, but as the carrying these measures into effect might bring about conflicts and complications which the Undersigned wish absolutely to avoid the Commanders of the Naval forces are requested in the latter case to make to the Prince of Nagato or his representative

Such

such remonstrances as they may deem appropiate and in any event to ascertain the state of things and to furnish the Undersigned with an immediate report in order that they may communicate with the Government of the Taicoon thereon and place their respective Governments in a position to give them instructions.

Article II.

Apart from the object of the preceding article, it is desirable that the Commanders of the Naval forces should be able to assure the free passage of the Straits to foreign Ships using it in regular trade with Japan and to lend the aid required by treaty for repressing on the part of Merchantships belonging to their respective flags in any part of the territories of Nagato contiguous to the Straits trading operations which in terms of the treaties are only authorized in the ports actually opened to foreigners.

Article III.

It is equally important to prevent the ships of the Taicoon charged with the prevention of unlawful Commercial

operations

operations with the insurgent prince from going in such cases beyond the limits of right and humanity.

Article IV.

When hostilities shall commence in the straits between the Taicoon and Choshu, the Commanders will warn foreign ships of the necessity of passing beyond the lines of fire, and should even require them to abstain from entering the straits, if the passage at the time should bring them into actual danger.

Article V.

It is well understood that all the measures indicated by the Undersigned shall be carried out in the manner which the Naval Commanders shall consider most fitting, and in any case; that their desire is that the strictest neutrality should be observed in all that concerns the military operations between the Taicoon and the Prince of Nagato.

Signed A. L. Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ad interim of the United States in Japan.

Signed Léon Roches
Minister Plenipotentiary of France in Japan
" Abel A Winchester
H Brll: Chargé d'affaires in Japan
" D. de Graeff van Polsbroek
Het M. Political Agent & Consul General.
in Japan.

Rec.d 23.d Sept.r

No: 37.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo June: 26 1865.

Sir,

I regret again to have to call Your attention to the extraordinary Conduct of Mr Geo: S. Fisher our Consul at Kanagawa, who appears to have re, solved against right and justice upon maintaining Mr Schoyer in the possession of that house belonging to the Japanese Government referred to in my despatch No. 31. of the 8th instant.

Even if Mr Schoyer had had the shadow of a claim, - it should in equity have been forfeited by the course himself and Mr Fisher have seen fit to pursue.

I simply gave notice to the Portuguese Consul that Mr Schoyer could claim no

The Honorable W.m H. Seward
Secretary of State
Washington

legal.

legal possession of the house in question, Mr Fisher declining to give such notice, instead of which it appears that he notified first all the Consuls and the Japanese Government — and myself afterwards, that those premises shall not be surrendered my decision notwithstanding. -

He found however it much wanted for an Academy for foreign Languages, and I trust the Japanese Government will now soon be in possession of it.

N.1 I transmit herewith N. 1 copy of
N.2 Mr Fisher's letter to me and N. 2 copy of my
N. 3. reply - and also N. 3 original note addressed to me by Mr Fisher, which will sufficiently show how violent his temper is and how disagreeable he makes himself, to such an extent indeed, that the Japanese Government would withdraw his exequatur at once if it were not for my interposition.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant.

A. L. Portman.
Chargé d' Affaires ad interim
in Japan.

No 69

Legation of the United States in Japan
Yedo, June 17. 1865

Sir.

Your despatch No 173 with fifteen enclosures dated on the 8th was received by me on the 13th instant, about one hour probably after the notice was sent by me to Hall & Mc Consul at Kanagawa, to which You refer in Your despatch of the 15th inst No 181, copy of which together with copy of this reply, I shall transmit to the Sate Department.

I have the honor to be
Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Signed A L Portman
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in Japan.

Geo S. Fisher Esqre.
US Consul
Kanagawa.

N: 181.

Consulate of the U.S of America
Kanagawa Japan, June 15th 1865

Sir.

I am informed this day that on the 13th instant after You had received my N: 173 with its enclosures and Knew through this Consulate of the formal appeal taken from Your decision in the matter of the disputed lot N: 25 Komagatamachi by the Schooner, You sent a written notice to N: P: Kingdon Esqre Hd M. Consul of this port not to allow any of Hd M. Subjects to pay to the Schooner Rents for premises occupied by them on lot N: 25 &c. and notifying him that those premises were surrendered up.

I now inform You that this unheard of transaction of Yours will be formally Complained of to the proper department of our Government and to take notice that those premises have not and will not be surrendered up

I am Sir
Your Obt Servt
Alf Soteman Esqre
Chargé d'affaires ad interim
US Legation
Yedo.

up by You nor by my consent until the appeal is heard and disposed of.

I further beg to inform You that on Evening this day for the first time that Swiss and Portuguese subjects were tenants of those disputed premises under Mr Schroyer, I transmitted to the respective Consuls of those Governments R. Lindau Esqr and W.P. Kingdon Esqre letters of the same tenor as mine of the 3d instant sent to Mr Flowers Esqr U.S. Acting Consul and P. Cheney Rameau Esq. Hd M. Consul a copy of which I enclosed You in my N° 173 marked Enclosure N° 15.

You will also take notice that I have formally notified the Governor of Kanagawa and through him the Government that those premises will not be given up pending this appeal, - and that they will be held strictly responsible for any and every consequence of dispossession or interference with the peaceable occupation of the same by Mr Schroyer until that is decided.

I have the honor to be

Sir, Very Respectfully
Your Ob't Servant
Signed Geo. S. Tinker
U.S. Consul.

Enclosure N°1.
with despatch N°37.
dated Feb. June 26 1865.

Enclosure N. 3.
with Despatch N. 37.
dated Yedo. June 26. 1865.

June 14th 1865.

Dear Portman

Never is an utter[illegible] more I must write for your benefit. Your having often heard uncalled for & unbecoming things said of Mr. Alcock "would shew me I had not got P. to deal "with & that if I came to Yedo you would send me "back the same way you did him". You probably did not remember Yedo is in my Consular jurisdiction & that it would not be as you ordered "imperiously ordered". I should have come when to say on that occasion & you might hopefully find yourself duly over head down bundy before you knew it -. It is my right to go to Yedo when I please & I shall do so. Mr. DeBrandt & Mr. Fisher my Colleagues know tempter Mr. & I hope to learn if I require one - at any rate I shall go there when I desire to & it is not for you to say yes or no. But I take it your over hitting the steam pipe letter and thus getting rid of the accumulated bile it did you good & I pray it by hoping it relieved you & did you good. I trust such "naturalp" will not again be displayed at least unless to my face.

I shall be sorry to hear you are unbetter of your lumbago & remain respy

Yrs. R.

Rec.d 23 Sept.r

N.o 38.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Yedo. June 28.th 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your despatch N.o 89. of February 16.th enclosing a printed letter which appeared in the New York Tribune of the 5.th February - and which contains injurious statements concerning the Ministers of the Treaty Powers in Japan.

I shall not fail to communicate that letter at once to those Ministers, and will then be enabled to submit to You the full information desired upon the subject at an early day.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant

A. L. Portman
Chargé d' Affaires ad interim
in Japan. -

The Honorable
Wm H. Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

Rec'd 28 Sept.

Mr Chilton

No 39.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Yedo. July 1. 1865.

Sir.

I have the honor to transmit herewith No. 1. my account of Contingent Expenses for the Legation for the quarter ending the 30th June. 1865. No 1
showing balance in my hands of $253.32/.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant.

A L Portman.
Charge d'Affaires ad interim in Japan.

The Honorable
Wm H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

Rec'd 30. Sept. Mr Chitten

No: 40.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Yedo. July 5. 1865.

Sir,

Late in the evening of the 3rd instant (the day of the arrival of the Mail at Kanagawa) I received a message from the Gorojio to the effect that several Officers of rank wished to visit me on this day. - I was accordingly waited on by Governor for Foreign Affairs with a numerous suite, who in the name of His Majesty the Taicoon and his Government came to request me to convey to the President and Yourself the sentiments of profound pain with which they had learned the assassination of Mr. Lincoln, and the attack on Yourself.

The Honorable Wm H Seward.
Secretary of State
Washington.

and

and also their sincerest wishes for Your
Speedy recovery.-

I assured those officers that I
should not fail to comply with this
request at the earliest opportunity.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant.

A. L. Portman.
Chargé d' Affaires ad interim
in Japan.-

Rec.d 28 Sept.r

Mr Chilton

N.o 44.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. July. 6th. 1865.

Sir,

With reference to my despatch N.o 24 of the 29th April last, I now have the honor to transmit N.o 1. my account for Salary as Secretary and Interpreter to this Legation for the quarter ending the 30th Ultimo, and to inform You, that I have Drawn on You on the 1st instant for $125.21/100; which draft is Supported

N.o 1

The Honorable. Wm H Seward.

Secretary of State

Washington

by.

by the required vouchers.

This despatch will be sent via San Francisco - and the draft via London; the account will therefore reach you at least two weeks before the draft will be presented.

I have the honor to be &c

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant.

A L Bottman.

Chargé d' affaires ad interim.

Rec. 28 Sept.

No 42.

Wm Patten

Legation of the United States in Japan
Yedo. July 11th 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform You of the arrival of Sir Harry S Parkes KCB as the representative of Her Britannic Majesty's Government in Japan.

I have met Sir Harry Parkes and entertain no doubt; that with a gentleman of so much experience of political affairs in the East; it will not be difficult to maintain an entente cordiale, and to act in concert in all matters of common interest.

I have the honor to be. Sir

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant.

A.L. Portman.
Chargé d' Affaires ad interim in Japan.

The Honorable. Wm H Seward.
Secretary of State
Washington.

Recd 28 Sept.

Wm Pitt Fessenden

No 43.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Yedo. July 15. 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your despatch No 88 of the 9th February and No 91 of the 22nd April last, transmitting the Commission of Mr Willie S Mangum as Consul at Nagasaki.

In obedience to Your instructions I have applied to the Japanese Government for Mr Mangum's exequatur, which when obtained, will be transmitted together with his Commission to Mr Mangum at his post.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant

A L Portman.
Chargé d'affaires ad interim
in Japan.

The Honorable
W H Seward.
Secretary of State.
Washington.

Rec.d 28 Sept.r

N.o 44.

W.m Heilton

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. July 24th. 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith N.o 1. copy of a letter addressed by me to the Japanese Government on the Subject of an Embassy which recently left for Europe. N.o 1

Up to this day no reply has been received by me to that letter, and I have no doubt, that the delay in giving me the information desired is owing to some Secret agreement entered into Some Months ago with the Representative of a Treaty Power in this Country.-

Although no engagement, either Secret or otherwise, made on behalf of the Japanese Government by this

The Honorable. W.m H. Seward.

Secretary of State

Washington.

Embassy.

Embassy with any European Power could in the slightest degree be binding on the United States. Yet it might ultimately prove of an embarrassing influence.

I feel confident that at an early day I shall succeed in procuring a satisfactory reply to my letter from the Japanese Government.

I hope you will be pleased to approve of my action in this matter.

I have the honor to be, Sir
Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant.

Alf Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ad interim
in Japan.

No 73.

Legation of the United States in Japan.
Yedo. July 8th 1865.

To
His Excellency.
Midzuno Hizennokami
Minister for Foreign Affairs
&. &. &.
Yedo.

I have to request Your Excellency to communicate to me the rank and names of the officers composing Your Embassy which left by last Mailsteamer for Europe -- and to inform me of the object of their mission.

Your Embassy which left for Europe in 1862 concluded a secret Convention with the Governments of Great Britain and France, which was shown me by Col. Neale then H.B.M's Chargé d'Affaires; and the Embassy which left subsequently concluded a Convention in Paris, - which latter Convention was disapproved of by Hall the Taicoon.

In neither of these cases was any notice whatever given to the Minister of

the

the United States

In the most friendly manner I now beg to submit that it is difficult to reconcile the conclusion of such Conventions with a fair interpretation of the most favored Nation clause, as contained in Article 9 of the Treaty concluded with Commodore Perry at Kanagawa on the 31st March 1854.

The President is animated with a most cordial friendship towards His Majesty the Taicoon and his Government, which friendship I am sure is as cordially reciprocated, - and I have therefore no doubt, that Your Excellency will furnish me at an early day with the information desired.

With respect and esteem
signed S L Portman.
Charge d'affaires of the
United States in Japan.

Recu 14. Oct
Rep. 17 "
N. 45.

Mr Chilton
Mr L

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. July 25th 1865.

Sir,

As stated in my despatch N. 38 of the 28th Ultimo acknowledging the receipt of Your despatch N. 89 of the 16th February last, I intended at once to communicate the injurious statements therein referred to concerning the Ministers of the Treaty Powers in this Country to those Ministers, in order to be enabled to submit to You the full information on that subject desired at an early day.

The British Chargé d'Affaires however to

The Honorable Wm H Seward.
Secretary of State
Washington.

Wilson.

whom I mentioned the subject had just
then received his promotion as Consul General
at Shanghai, with instructions to proceed
to his post at the earliest moment; and
being much occupied, he desired me to
discuss the matter with his successor, who
has not yet been able to find time for
due investigation.-

The French Minister being seriously
ill, was compelled to go to the hot springs
of Atami in the Province of Idzu, for the
benefit of his health; where it will be
necessary for him to remain some time; and
the Netherland Consul General left for
Nagasaki, and is not expected to return
before the early part of September.-

Since writing Your despatch N° 89
above referred to, Mr Terujo concluded

to

to avail himself of the leave of absence granted him by the President, and must, ere this reach You, have reported himself at Washington. - To gather the opinions on the subject of the Foreign Representatives in this Country, under the circumstances as above stated, necessarily involves delay; to avoid which, I respectfully beg to refer You to Mr Treyer, who of course is well acquainted with the subject, and will be able to explain it to Your entire satisfaction. -

I have the honor to be. &c

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant.

A L Portman.

Chargé d' affaires ad interim in Japan.

A. L. Portman.
Chargé d'affaires ad interim

N. 45.

No Enclosures

Received.

In further reply to despatch
N. 89 of the 16th February 1865.

Recd 14th Oct.
ans N. 46. "

Mr Chilton
Act

Legation of the United States in Japan.
Yedo. July 27th 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith No 1. translation of a letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs in reply to my letter addressed to him; a copy of which formed Enclosure No 1. of my despatch No 44 of the 24th instant. No 1

The object of the Embassy is stated to be a visit to England and France - and to procure instructions in Military art &c

Sir it the first Embassy which went

The Honorable W. H Seward.
Secretary of State.
Washington.

abroad

abroad without an Embassy mission; and from this it may be inferred, whatever be the nature of the agreement referred to in my despatch N. 44, that no conclusion of any Convention, nor even discussions of any political Nature are contemplated by the Japanese Government in sending this Embassy.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A. H. Portman.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in Japan.

To A. J. Dallas Esqr.
Chargé d' Affaires of the
United States of America
&c &c &c.

I have received Your letter N° 73 of the 8th July in which You desire to be informed of the rank and the names of the Officers composing the Embassy which recently left for England and France and of the object of their mission.

The object of this Embassy is to request those Governments to allow instructions to be given in military art &c.

This was not Communicated to You because the Embassy was sent for that Special purpose, - and not on any important matter connected with the

intercourse

intercourse between our respective Countries.

That Your President is animated with a cordial friendship towards His Majesty the Taicoon of Japan is duly appreciated by His Majesty the Taicoon.

I transmit herewith a list, showing the names and rank of the Officers composing the Embassy.

Dated in reply to Your letter.

With respect and esteem.

the 5th day of the 6th month of the 1st year of Ke. Ō. (27. July 1857.

signed / Midzuno Tōkuni no kami.

List of Officers composing the Embassy

Sibata Yenga no kami

Envoy and Chargé d'Affaires. Governor

for Foreign Affairs.

Midzuno Kurataro.

Vice governor and 1st officer of Embassy.

Tomita Tatsuke.

Inspector.

Obana Takenoske.

Assistant Inspector.

Mutobi Genshiro.

Interpreter (rank of Assistant Inspector).

Siwoda Saburo.

Interpreter.

Enclosure No 1
with despatch No 46
dated Yedo. July 27. 1865.

Reed Rec'd aug. 1st Mr Burlingame
Mr Seward
No. 1 London July 31. 1865

Sir

I have the honor to transmit to you the Convention of the 25th day of January 1864 for the regulation of Import Duties concluded with the Japanese Government

Also the Convention entered into by & between His Majesty the Tycoon and the Governments of the United States Great Britain France & Holland providing for the payment to said Governments of the Sum of Three Millions of Dollars for indemnities & Expenses

Subjoined to this last Convention is a Memorandum executed by the Ministers of said Treaty Powers explanatory thereof & embracing returns of the

Hon William H Seward
Secretary of State

forces employed in the recent operations in Japan. ×

I have the honor to be Your Most obt Svt

Lt Col W Penn Symons
Minister Resident
in Japan

× Copies of these Naval Convention were enclosed to you at the time they were concluded.

Rec'd 16. Nov.
No. 47 Ans. 17 "

Legation of the United States in Japan.

Yedo. August 6th 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith No. 1. translation of a letter from the Foreign Office, informing me that two of its Members at Osaca had commissioned two Warsteamers to cruise off the coast of Nagato under instructions to seize all foreign vessels engaged in illicit traffic with the Subjects of the rebellious Prince of that Province. No. 1

This letter was handed me with

The Honorable Wm H. Seward.
Secretary of State
Washington.

the

the request that the greatest possible publicity might be given to it.

I therefore addressed a letter to this effect to Mr Seward our Consul General in China at Shanghai (Copy Enclosure № 2/ № 2 and also to our Consul at Hongkong, and to the Consular Officers in this Country /Copy Enclosure № 3./ № 3.

With my reply to the Foreign (Copy Enclosure № 4/ № 4. I transmitted an authenticated copy in duplicate of my letter to the Consuls above named for each of those two Vaisseaux, for the double purpose of enabling their respective Commanders, in the probable absence of Competent Interpreters, to communicate with any American vessel; should any unfortunately be found engaged in such illicit

traffic

traffic, and to show that both in China and Japan the Consular Officers of the United States have been informed of the presence of these Steamers and the object of their cruise.

On enquiry whether the Commanders of these Warsteamers "would know how to act" in case of their meeting with any American vessel engaged in such illicit traffic, it was stated to me, that the Japanese Government were not quite prepared to "discuss any question of International Law", but that I might rest assured that both Commanders were Cautious Gentlemen, - and that moreover they had been instructed to act with the greatest moderation, - though it was hoped and believed that there would be no necessity for any action whatever on their part.

The mission of these Steamers though

not

not fully declined perhaps. It evidently the blockade of Simonoseki, to prevent supplies of arms, ammunition & leading the Prince of Nagato, now bolder than ever in his overt rebellion against the Government.

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant.

A. L. Portman.
Chargé d'Affaires ai: in Japan.

A. L. Portman Esqre.

Chargé d' Affaires of the

United States in Japan

&c. &c. &c.

I have to inform you that having learned that foreign ships are trading clandestinely at Simonoseki in the Province of Nagato, two ships of war the Kokoku and Kokuriu stationed at Hacca have been sent on the 25th July to cruise off the coast of Nagato for the purpose of seizing all vessels engaged in illicit traffic. - This has been communicated to me by my Colleagues there at Hacca.

I request you to make the foregoing known to all American

Shipmasters.

shipmasters who may sail through the Straits, and also to the Commanders of American ships of war in the Eastern Seas, in order that a friendly understanding may exist when the officers of our respective Nations shall meet each other.

With respect and esteem

the 13th day of the 5th month of the 1st Year of Kei O. (4th August 1865.

Signed/ Mutsuno Awaji no kami.

No 8.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo August 5 1865.

Sir,

The Gorojio of Japan informed me that on the 25th Ultimo two of its Members at Osaca commissioned two Warsteamers the Shokoku and Kokuriu to cruise off the coast of Nagato with instructions to seize foreign vessels engaged in illicit traffic.

In Compliance with the desire expressed I now have the

Geo F Seward Esqr.

Consul General of the United States in China

Shanghai.

Lonon

honor to request You to make the foregoing known to the Consular Officers of the United States in China for the information of all American Citizens within their respective jurisdictions.

I have the honor to be, Sir

Very Respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

Signed A L Portman.

Charge d' Affaires ad interim

in Japan.

No 78.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. August 5th 1865.

Sir,

The Gorojo informs me that on the 25th Ultimo two of its Members at Nacca Commissioned two Warsteamers the Kokoku and Kokuriu to cruise off the coast of Nagato with instructions to seize foreign vessels engaged in illicit traffic.

In compliance with the desire expressed I now have the honor to request You to make the foregoing known to all American Citizens

J G Walsh Esq.
U.S. Consul
Nagasaki

within

within Your jurisdiction.

I have the honor to be &c. &c.

Respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

Signed Algernon

Chargé d' affaires ad interim

in Japan.

Note. Same date and tenor to the Consul at Kanagawa and Commercial Agent at Hakodate. - and Consul at Hongkong.

No 83.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. August 5th 1865.

To

His Excellency.

Mitsuru Idzumi no Kami

Minister for Foreign Affairs

&c &c &c

Yedo.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letter of Yesterday, stating that Your colleagues at Hiogo had commissioned two Warsteamers to proceed off the Coast of Nagato for the suppression of illicit traffic — and in reply to inform You that I have this day given notice to that effect to the Commdr

L

of the United States in Japan and Consul-General at Shanghai for the information of the American Consulates in China.

I transmit herewith a copy of that Notice and also an additional one should you desire to send to each of the Warsteamers named in your letter a copy certified and under the seal of this Légation.

With respect and esteem:

Signed A L C Portman.

Chargé d' Affaires, ad interim of the United States in Japan.

Desp. 16. Mr. Pruyn
Augs. 48. 20 "

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. August 22nd 1865.

Sir,

On the morning of the 18th instant. I was waited on by Goremors for Foreign affairs, who came to inform me, that the Japanese Government was prepared to pay the first instalment of five hundred thousand dollars of the Simonoseki indemnity according to the Convention of the 22nd October 1864.

Aware that under Article 2nd of that Convention the large sum of

The Honorable W. H. Seward.
Secretary of State
Washington.

three millions (3,000,000) of dollars was payable quarterly in instalments of half a million (500000) dollars each, "to begin from the date when the "Representatives of the Powers signing "it should make known to the Taicoons "Government the ratifications of the "Convention and the instructions of their "respective Governments" — I only enquired whether similar announcements had been made to the Representatives of the other Treaty Powers.

The Governor then informed me that early on that day another Governor for Foreign Affairs had gone to Yokohama for that purpose — and that such announcement would probably be made to the other Representatives in the afternoon

of.

of that day. ~~~

In order that my absence might not embarass the action of those Representatives, I accordingly went down to Yokohama at once - with the object of ascertaining their views on this unexpected announcement.

The unanimous opinion was in view of the decision taken and communicated to the Japanese in April last, that no option was left, but that the amount tendered should be received. - I respectfully beg to refer you to despatch N° 16 of this Series with its three enclosures.

I now have the honor to transmit herewith N°. 1. copy of a Memorandum, N°1 dated the 21 August 1865, agreeing to

take

take delivery of the Yen offered, appended to which is a copy of an Order to the Chartered Oriental Bank and Chartered Mercantile Bank to hold that money in equal sums of two hundred fifty thousand (250000) Dollars each to the conjoint order of the Representatives of the Four Powers who signed the Convention of October 22nd 1864.

Your instructions as to the disposal of that money have no doubt been sent already; their anticipated early arrival was an additional reason why I felt no hesitation in consenting to its being received. - If the Offer of the Japanese Government had not been accepted at once when made, - the payment of the first instalment might have been indefinitely extended - and the Convention

as I learned, ~~but~~ already in substance been approved by the Governments of Great Britain and France.

Should the whole amount of the indemnity namely threemillions (3000000/ of dollars, so much larger than originally intended, be deemed too large, - which was Mr Pruyn's opinion as expressed in his despatch N° 65 of the 29th October 1864, I beg respectfully to suggest, inasmuch as it is stated in Article 3 of that Convention that "the receipt "of money has never been the object of "the said Treaty Powers but the establishment "of better relations with Japan", &c. that a portion of that indemnity say five hundred thousand (500000/ dollars might be most advantageously employed in

in

improvements in both the foreign and Japanese settlements at the opened ports - such as drainage cleaning streets &c. - In no manner, that I am aware of, could any portion of such indemnity be employed to greater advantage and be of more lasting benefit to both our political and Commercial relations with this Country.

I have the honor to be, Sir

Very respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A. L. Portman.

Chargé d' Affaires ad interim

in Japan.

Memorandum

The Government of the Taicoon having offered in April last to pay in the course of the Sixth month of the Japanese Year of Senji (which terminated Yesterday Sunday 20th August) to the Representatives of the Foreign Powers, who signed the Convention of the 22nd October 1864 a Sum of Five hundred thousand (500,000) Dollars as the first instalment of the Indemnity stipulated for in the said Convention, - and the said offer having been accepted in April last by the Representatives of the Signing Powers; and Tamura Higo no kami having tendered on the nineteenth instant to the Undersigned on the part of the

Government

Government of the Tycoon the said sum of Five hundred thousand Dollars, the Undersigned hereby record their agreement to take delivery of the said money - and with a view to its safe custody to authorize by the letter at foot, the deposit of the same in two equal sums of two hundred and fifty thousand ($250,000) Dollars in the Chartered Oriental Bank and the Chartered Mercantile Bank at Yokohama, each Bank to receive one of the said sums and to hold the same subject to the instructions now expected from the respective Governments of the Undersigned as to the manner in which the said money is to be disposed of.

Signed at H.B.M.'s Legation this 21st day of August AD 1865.

Signed

Signed/ Harry S. Parkes

H.B.M.'s Envoy Extraordinary and
Minister Plenipotentiary

" Adolf Portman.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of the United States

" D. de Graeff van Polsbroek

H.M.'s Political Agent and Consul General.

" A. Chevrey Rameau.

Gérant du Consulat Général de France

Comte de Turenne.

Attaché.

Suite of Minister de France

Copy.

To J. G. Pickard Esqre. Manager
Chartered Oriental Bank and
A Brett Esqre. Manager
Chartered Mercantile Bank.
Yokohama.

—

You are hereby authorized to receive from the Japanese Authorities the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand (250000/ Dollars - and to hold the same to our conjoint order.

As the delivery of the sum may extend over several days You will give a receipt at the close of each day for the amount received on that day, which will be countersigned by the Russian Japanese Secretary to H Britt Legation.

Signed HSP.
Adf.
Ste fr P.
pour M Rocher. PCR.
for dit.

Rec 18. Nov

N. 49.

Legation of the United States in Japan.

Yeddo, August 30th 1865.

Sir,

At last I am enabled to transmit copies of the correspondence on the subject of the recent unlawful proceedings of the steamer Tycoon (late the Monitor) as follows:

Enclosure N. 1. Mr Fournel General Seward to Mr Pruyn April 26 1865. N. 1

Enclosure N. 2. Enclosure N. 1 to that despatch in reference to the transfer of the steamer Sanbatsumaro (late the Lancefield). N. 2

The Honorable Wm H. Seward.

Secretary of State

Washington.

belonging.

belonging to the Prince of Nagato (a Daimio).

p.3 Enclosure N°3. Enclosure N°2 to that despatch

" Copy of the correspondence between Mr Seward and the Netherlands Vice Consul at Shanghae.

N°4. " N°4. Mr Portman to Mr Seward. May 7th 1865

N°5 " N°5 Mr Pruyn to Mr Portman May 5th "

N°6 " N°6 Mr Portman to the Sosyo's May 22" "

N°7 " N°7. the Sosyo's to Mr Portman June 22.

N°8 " N°8. Mr Portman to the Sosyo's June 26

N°9 " N°9. the Sosyo's to Mr Portman August 29th

The facts in this case are briefly as follows:- In the latter part of February last Mr H K Drake an American citizen onboard of the Steamer Textang, late the Monitor, of which he is the principal owner, arrived at the non-opened port of Simonoseki, in the Province of the Prince of Nagato, who was then and is still in rebellion

rebellion against the Japanese Government.

While there he took charge of the Steamer Senkatsimaru, late the Lancefield, belonging to that Prince, which had been damaged in her action with the Wyoming in July 1863.- Mr Drake then caused that Steamer to be sufficiently repaired so as to enable her to proceed to Kanghae. Accordingly Mr Drake arrived at Woosung near Kanghae on the 22nd March with those two Steamers the Teetang and Senkatsimaru and about fifty Subjects of the Prince of Nagato onboard of those vessels;- he was provided with a document purporting to be a power of attorney from the Prince of Nagato; from whom he then under this power of attorney bought that Steamer for his firm of H.K Drake & Co.

and

and after examination of the title, the transfer was made accordingly at the Consulate General at Shanghae: -

During the first week of April last intelligence was received at Yokohama of the arrival and sale at Shanghae of a Japanese Steamer, - and on the Mailsteamer of the 15th of that month three Japanese Officers secretly left for that place with instructions, at the suggestion, it appears, of the Consul General of the Netherlands at Yokohama, who had communicated to the Japanese Government the intelligence referred to.

Those three Officers returned in the Mailsteamer which arrived at Yokohama during the first week in May. They at once called upon me in Company with a Memorandum from Foreign Affairs to inform me of their

visit.

visit to Shanghae and its result. I pointed out to them the impropriety of going to Shanghae on a mission of enquiry into the unlawful proceedings of an American vessel, without first inviting the attention of Mr Tenyu to so important a subject, - and informed them, that as Mr Tenyu had left on the 28th April - his instructions would no doubt be sent me by the next inward mail, when I would be prepared to communicate with them on the subject. - To this brief delay they readily assented. -

When Mr Tenyu's instructions came I at once addressed to the Foreign a letter in accordance ~~therewith~~, viz. stating upon receiving an explanation and apology so justly due to Mr Tenyu.

The principal reason given for withholding

the

the apology was their pretended ignorance of the Nationality of the Steamer, which had Committed the Several violations of the Treaty complained of, - and the secrecy observed in the proceedings of the Japanese Government in sending those three Officers to Shanghae was explained by their desire to arrest, if possible, at that place those Subjects of Nagato, who by leaving their Country without due permission had infringed an important National Law.

If those three Japanese Officers had met the Subjects of Nagato referred to at Shanghae, the attempt to arrest them with or without the aid of the Courts of the Treaty Powers would undoubtedly have been made. On their arrival at Shanghae however they found that those

Subjects

Subjects had left already.

Without entering into the discussion of this contemplated arrest of rebellious subjects in a Country having no Treaty relations with Japan, I pointed out to them, that if ignorant of the Nationality of the vessel, whose proceedings were complained of, they should first have enquired into a matter of so much importance - and that though no illwill was suspected, Yet this mission on their part or on the part of their adviser the Consul General of the Netherlands at Yokohama, for whose actions they were responsible, - was calculated to imply distrust of Mr Pruyn the Minister of the United States to do his whole duty in the premises.

Several interviews with foremost Foreign Affairs were held by me on the subject, the upshot of which gradually became, that if a mistake had been committed, such mistake was fully counterbalanced by the failure on the part of the Officers of the United States to arrest the owner of the steamer Fei Tang Mr H K Drake - and to hold him to a strict account for his several violations of the Treaty.

It so happened, that on the 3d May the Fei Tang with Mr Drake onboard appeared off Nagasaki, when Mr J G Walsh the Vice Consul at once ordered her to commence port, which her owner Mr Drake being on board declined to do.

No. 10. I transmit No. 10 copy of the Order of the Vice Consul to the US Marshall, together

together with copy of the Marshall's returns.-

During the evening however the Tsetang entered that port, took in a supply of coal and three Chinese passengers, and before daylight of the 4th May she had disappeared.

I conclusively proved therefore to the Japanese Government, that the failure to arrest Mr Drake and bring him to trial was solely owing not to the Officers of the United States, but to the omission of the harbor police of Nagasaki to notify the Consul and Governor of that place of her arrival into port, taking in coal &c. I also stated that ignorance on the part of the harbor police of Nagasaki was inadmissible, as the Tsetang had been repeatedly in that harbor, and must have

been

been well known to all their officers.

After many interviews again I was at last waited upon by the three officers who had been sent as commissioners to Shanghae - and they admitted "that a mistake had been made and that they regretted the occurrence". This is the statement referred to in the letter of the Minister for Foreign Affairs (Copy Enclosure No. 9). I have taken the responsibility of declaring myself satisfied with this statement and trust You will be pleased to approve of my action. I did not deem it advisable to insist upon a more formal apology in writing, in view of the highly unlawful conduct of Mr Drake, for which an satisfaction, justly due to the Japanese Government, is apparently unattainable

unattainable.

The Japanese Government insist upon Mr Drake as soon as favorable being brought to trial and suitably punished for his offence of entering and trading at a non opened port; - which offence is enhanced by the full knowledge he must have possessed of the Prince of Choshiu being in rebellion against the Government, - also by taking the subjects of that Prince out of this Country, which it is well known they are not allowed to leave without permission from the Government. -

They further state, that even if the power of attorney produced by Mr Drake, empowering him to dispose of the Steamer Genkotsumaro, now again the Lancefield, had been signed and sealed by the Prince

of

Prince of Nagato himself or his authorized Agent, they would deny that a legal title has been acquired to that Steamer by Mr Drake or his firm of Drake & Co, on the ground, that any and every transaction at a nonopened port is illegal under the Treaty.

In obedience to Mr Seward's instructions, I shall now address a letter to the Consul General of the Netherlands at Yokohama, who recently returned from Nagasaki, - and whose officiousness appears to have been embarrassing in this matter, asking for an explanation of his action, which I hope may yet be satisfactory, as his official course has invariably been distinguished by courtesy. At an early

early day. I trust I shall be able to transmit a copy of that letter together with a copy of his reply.

I have the honor to be, &c.

Very respectfully

Your most obedient servant.

A. J. Portman.

Chargé d' affaires ad interim in Japan.

Consulate General of the United States
Shanghae April 26 1865.

His Excellency
Robert H. Pruyn Esqr
Minister Resident of the United States
Kanagawa Japan.

Sir,

I have enclosed copies of a letter from the Netherland Vice Consul at this Port and of my reply which explains the nature of this Communication

The three Japanese were received as arranged the information given herein was stated to them. To their request that they might receive it in writing I answered that I would say to You just the things expressed to them, but that as they came to me in an informal manner I could not accede to the request.

The Steamer "Singaporean" was bought to this port by Mr H.K. Drake a Citizen of the United States and Chief of the firm of H.K. Drake & Co of Shanghae. She arrived at Woosung below Shanghae on or about the 22nd March last. At the time she carried a white

flag.

flag with a red ball at the Centre, which is understood to be the National flag of Japan.

Soon afterwards I was told by Mr Drake that he had purchased the Steamer from the Prince of Nagato and that he wished to place her under the United States flag. He produced a power of Attorney purporting to have been executed by Nagato authorizing him to sell the vessel and asked me to prepare the papers of transfer.

Although feeling much disgust at the conduct of Mr Drake in entering into trade at an unopened port in Japan and a strong desire to discourage such irregularities I concluded upon reflection that I could not refuse to accord the action requested provided the fact of the purchase should be established

Mr Carl Nickel came forward and made affidavit to the execution of the Power in a satisfactory manner. His deposition will be found endorsed. - A printed Schedule published some months since showing the Sale of the Steamer under the name of the Lancefield to Nagato in the year 1862 was produced as evidence of the proprietorship of Nagato. Mr

Drake

Drake and his partner further declared their readiness to take an oath that they were in good faith owners of the vessel. - Her oath will also be found enclosed.

Perhaps I might not have been called upon to ask further evidence of ownership on the part of the applicants for registry. - I did however cause an examination to be made of two of the chief Officers (Japanese) onboard, which fully corroborated the statements made by Mr Drake as to the purchase. I could not moreover but feel the force of the following circumstances.

1st The presence of about fifty Japanese who had come to Shanghae and who were on the most friendly terms with Mr Drake. Had they left the dominions of the Prince in any unusual manner their conduct would have given I think some indication of the fact.

2nd The reports prevalent that Nagato is in revolt with the Government of the Taicoon. The "Jingatsimaru" being a valuable but useless and exposed property he would naturally be anxious to dispose of her.

3rd The condition of the vessel. She had evidently been utterly neglected. Her Machinery

would

would soon have been very badly injured by rust; the paint was nearly worn off, and the damage done by the Wyoming was difficult to be repaired by native artisans. She must have been at mentioned a useless property.

4th The time occupied by Mr Hale in making the voyage from Kanagawa to Shanghae about six weeks. This supported his statement that he had been occupied with all the force of his steamer the Teetang for twenty days in repairing the Lanefield, before she could be taken to sea.

The papers of transfer were therefore drawn executed by Mr Hale as Attorney for Hagata and recorded in this office. Full copies of the original papers will be found enclosed The vessel was subsequently transferred to Mr BW Morrill and by him to Mr JB Forbes of Messrs Russell & Co. - These latter transfers are in the usual form.

In response to questions put at the interview I told the delegates that I did not know whether the Seamew had Japanese papers on board on her arrival. - To my Counter question they replied that there is no general

registry.

legistry of vessels in Japan. To the number of
officers and men onboard the Steamer, I was
unable to speak more definitely than that
there was about fifty more or less. The name of
one of the officers is written in the margin some
characters made by himself. I have the name
of no other, and was unable owing to the
absence of my interpeter to give the delegates
this name at the interview. There was no
Japanese onboard who could speak English
The intercourse with them was conducted by
us through Mr Nickel and a Chinese who
speaks Japanese and by means of the Chinese
written characters which resemble in form
and signification those of Japan. I have
understood that Mr Rake was to pay Nagato
by instalments, but I know nothing positively
upon the point.

中嶋曲郎

日本國話叶

十カ月ヲ以テ拂ヒ込ム

Various questions were put by me to
the delegates which they answered freely,
but it is not necessary to enter into that
part of the conversation further than to
say that nothing was elicited tending to
show that the Steamer was not at the
time of Sale the property of Nagato or

that

that she passed otherwise than as alleged by Mr Drake.

I have the honor to be Sir
Your Obedient Humble servant
Signed/ Geo F Seward.

Enclosure No. 1.
with despatch No. 49
dated August 30. 1865

(Copy.)

Know all men by these presents that I Matsdaira Daimen no Daibu Prince of Nagato Sole owner of the Steamer Fir Sitsmaw by HK Drake my attorney in fact for and in consideration of the Sum of one dollar (Mexican) to me in hand paid at or before the ensealing and delivery of these presents by Hatt Conklin and HK Drake constituting and comprising the mercantile firm of HK Drake & Co of Shanghae China, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged have granted bar, gained Sold assigned transfered and set over and by these presents do grant bargain Sell assign transfer and set over unto the said HK Drake & Co of Shanghae, their executors, administrators and assigns the whole of the above mentioned Steamer together with the whole of her masts Yards Sails, rigging anchors Cables, boats, tackle apparel and appurtenances as she is, and as she is more particularly described in the following words.

Length of Keel 228 feet.

Breadth of beam 30 feet

Depth of hold 24 "

Tonnage 447 tons.

Built in the port of Glascow in the Year of our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and fifty five

To have and to hold the said Steamer and the appurtenances thereunto belonging unto the said H K Drake & Co of Shanghae, their executors, administrators and assigns to, the only proper use and behoof and at the proper Cost and Charges of the said H K Drake & Co of Shanghae their executors administrators and assigns from henceforth forever and I the said Matsudaira Daiscu no Daibu Prince of Nagato for myself and my executors and administrators do hereby covenant and agree to and with the said H K Drake & Co of Shanghae their executors, administrators and assigns that at the execution of these presents I am as aforesaid the true and lawful owner of the said Steamer called the Sirkeitmaru with the appurtenances thereunto belonging, and have full right and authority to Sell and dispose of the Same, and that she is freed from and cleared of all claims encumbrances

and

and demands whatsoever.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal (by my attorney in fact) the 23rd day of March AD 1857.

Signed) Matsdaira Daiken no Daibu
Prince of Nagato by his
Attorney in fact
Signed) H K Drake (L.S.)

Signed Sealed and Delivered
in presence of
Signed) J A Fonda.
R R Lewis.

United States Consulate General
Shanghae China March 23. 1865.

I the Undersigned Consul General of the United States of America for China at Shanghae do hereby certify that H K Drake as Attorney in fact for Matsudaira Daiwen no daikiu Prince of Nagato Signed and Sealed the foregoing Bill of Sale in my presence and in presence of the witnesses thereto, and acknowledged the same to be his act and deed for the purposes therein mentioned.

Given under my hand and Seal of the Consulate General on the day and Year last above written

Signed Geo F Seward
(L.S.) Consul General.

I Geo F Seward Consul General of the United States of America for China at Shanghae do hereby certify that the within Bill of Sale bearing date the 23d day of March AD 1865. of the Screwsteamer 228ft in length 30ft in breadth and 14ft in depth and of the tonnage 447 tons sold and transfered by H K Drake Attorney in fact for Matsudaira Daiwen no daikiu Prince of

Nagato

Nagats to Platt Conklin and HK Drake Constituting and Composing the Mercantile Firm of HK Drake & Co of Shanghae China is in form and Substance valid and effective in Law and has been duly recorded in my office and that the said Platt Conklin and HK Drake are Citizens of the United States

At witness my hand and Seal of the Consulate General this 24th day of March in the Year of our Lord one thousand eighthundred and Saty five

Ed/ Geo F Seward.
US Cg

(L.S.)

Consulate General of the United States
Shanghae March 28th 1865.

I the Undersigned Consul General of the United States resident at Shanghae hereby certify that by the request of her Owners the name of the Steamer transferred by the above bill of Sale has been changed and is now engrossed on the books of this office the "Lancefield".

In witness whereof I have hereunto placed my hand and official Seal the

day and year last above written at Shanghae.

(L.S.) Sgd/ Geo F Seward.
U.S.C.

Know all men by these presents that I Matsdaira Daiemnodaiu Prince of Nagato have made constituted and appointed and by these presents do make constitute and appoint H.H. Rake of Shanghae China my true and lawful attorney for me and in my name place and stead to receive bargain sell a convey or dispose of in any manner whatever the Japanese Steamer owned by me called the Jiuritsmaru built at Glascow Scotland AD 1853 of the following dimensions length 228ft. breadth of beam 30ft. depth of hold 24ft constructed of iron two masts big rigged and of about ninehundred tons (900)

giving and granting said attorney full power to convey said Steamer to any foreign port or ports he may deem advisable; and also granting said attorney full power and control over the Japanese employed in navigating the above named Steamer. - granting and giving unto my said Attorney full power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing whatsoever

whatsoever requisite or necessary to be done in and about the premises as fully to all intents and purposes as I might or could do if personally present with full power of substitution and revocation hereby ratifying and confirming all that my said Attorney or his substitute shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the twenty sixth day of February AD one thousand eight hundred and sixty five

Signed sealed and delivered
in the presence of
[illegible] Carl Nickel

毛利大膳大夫臣
林田藏六

釼推萬敵
筆掃千軍

花押

印

青木辯平

This is the seal in wax
and is the impression
of an Ebibe.

Counsulate General of the United States
Shanghae China March 24th 1865.

Before me Geo. F. Seward Esquire Counl General of the United States resident at Shanghae duly Commissioned and Sworn appeared Carl Nickel Esq. personally known to me who being Sworn upon the Evangelists of Almighty God deposed.

I am a Subject of Holl the King of Prussia. I have resided in Nagasaki Japan for Six Years - and speak the language of Japan I was present when the attached power of attorney made by the Prince of Nagato was Signed and Sealed.

The signature of the person Signing the Power is the Lowest character of the Japanese writing. The seal in wax in the lower right hand corner is the Seal of the person Signing the Power. The printed Stamp was placed upon the document by the Custom House Authorities at Simonoseki in the province of Nagato in witness of the execution of the Power. The person who signed the Power was the Chief Officer of the Customs at Simonoseki who holds

the

the Seals of the Prince of Nagato. At the time of the execution of the Power the steamer was lying at Fukuna about three miles from Simonoseki and possession of her had been already given to Capt. Drake Esqre. by the abovementioned Chief officer of the Customs and in presence of several officers.

The words of the Power were translated into Dutch by me and then translated into Japanese by a Japanese linguist who spoke Dutch. The linguist also understood English imperfectly.

I am satisfied that the person signing the Power fully understood the intent and purpose of the document in question.

Sd/ Carl Nickel

Witness my hand and
Seal of the Consulate General
at Shanghai.

Sd/ Geo F Seward.
U.S. Consul General.

(L.S.)

United States Consulate General
Shanghai. April 28. 1865.

I B R Lewis Deputy Consul General of the United States of America resident at Shanghai. China do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true correct and faithful copy of the bill of Sale of the Steamer "Lancefield" on record in this office with the certificate attached. That the copy of the Power of Attorney and affidavit of Carl Nickel are true and correct copies of the copies of the originals on file in this office.

Witness my hand and the seal of this Consulate General the day and year last above written at Shanghai.

Signed B R Lewis
Deputy Consul General.

L.S.

Netherlandt Vicekonsulate
Shanghae. 21 April. 1865.

Sir.

I have the honor to inform You that having received a despatch from Hr Ms Legation in Japan, in which I am requested in behalf of the Japanese Government to obtain all possible information regarding the mysterious and peculiar sale of the Japanese Steamer "Sinsatsumaru" and her arrival in Shanghae, I beg leave to address myself to You, by whom I believe the transfer of the Steamer took place, hoping in this in the amicable relations which always existed between us and Your known obligeness.

Allow me then the liberty to point out to You the several questions, on which I am asked to obtain information.

The first is: Had the Sinsatsumaru her Japanese papers and pass on board - and if so - are these papers still here? Was

G. F. Seward Esqr
Consul General of the United States
&c &c &c
Shanghae.

Was there an authorisation of the owners
onboard for selling the steamer?

How many officers and men were there
onboard when the Syingatsimaru arrived in
this port?

Were the names known of there officers?
Were there any interpreters onboard - and what
was the name of the interpreter used between
the parties concerned and also that used
at Your Consulate?

What was the price at which the steamer
was sold and who are her owners?

The Japanese Government having heard
that the steamer was disabled, but not knowing
what if true in the case require me also to
enquire if the vessel has been in danger, and
if there exists a letter from the Captain Commander
of the Syingatsimaru to the Captain of the Monitor"
to give assistance to the steamer?

Are there several questions I would feel
very much obliged to You to get information
and if not too much asked. I would also
much like to get all informations regarding
this matter You may possess as also the
copies of the documents passed at Your

Consulate

Consulate by the transfer of the steamer.

In bearer of the despatch of H. N. M. Political Agent were introduced to me.

Sikawa Iwaji 1st Japanese Delegate

Niki Kidaiuro 2d " Interpreter

and Segura Aiko 2nd " Delegate.

These officers have requested me by this to send their obedience to You and to state that they would feel very much honored by Your appointing them an hour on Monday the 24th instant when they may call upon You.

In offering You my sincere thanks beforehand for the assistance given to me in this matter.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most Obedient and

humble servant

Signed J Kraes.

Netherland Vice Consul

Shanghae.

Consulate General of the United States
Shanghai 25th April 1865

J. Knoet Esq
Netherlands Vice Consul
Sir,

I have had the honor to receive Your Communication of the 21st April saying that You have received a Despatch from His Netherlands Majesty's Legation in Japan in which You are requested in behalf of the Japanese Government to obtain all possible information regarding the mysterious and peculiar Sale of the Japanese Steamer Gingat Sinnaru and her arrival at Shanghae.

You address me as the person by whom as You suppose the transfer was made detailing the points upon which You are requested to obtain information and in conclusion asking me to appoint an hour when three delegates natives of Japan and bearers of the despatch of His Netherlands Majesty's Legation Political Agent may call upon me.

I shall be prepared to receive the delegates this day at 3 PM.

I.

I beg to suggest that since the delegates probably seek the interview with the object of collecting the information requested in Your dispatch, it will be as well perhaps for me to afford them directly such information as has come to me.

Should they wish that this information be committed to writing I will so commit it. And that I may be entirely regular I will send the same to the Minister of the United States in Japan to be by him if he shall see fit transmitted to the Japanese Government.

I beg leave to assure You of the high consideration with which I am

Sir

Your Obt Servant

Wm H Seward.

Wm H Seward.

N: 53.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa May 7th 1865.

Sir.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your dispatch of the 28th Ultimo with enclosures addressed to the Honorable W.H. Seward. Some three days after mailing this dispatch, Mr Seward on his way home under leave of absence must have arrived in Shanghae and in person conferred with You on the subject. - I will no doubt receive therefore by the first opportunity clear and explicit instructions from him, perhaps with additional information of importance.

The clandestine trading at Simonoseki by the Owner of the Fee Sang appears to have already been

Geo F Seward Esqre
Consul General of the United States in China
Shanghae.

respectfully

profitably imitated by others; besides being unlawful, it is undoubtedly attended with considerable risk to the lives and property of those engaged in it: and may ultimately prove the fruitful source of grave complications.

Governor for Foreign affairs called on me for the purpose of discussing the action of the crew of the Testaj, but we agreed to wait until the arrival by next mail of Mr Seward's instructions.

At the earliest possible day I shall have the honor to address You again - and in the meantime be greatly obliged to You for all such information in relation to this matter as may come to Your knowledge, and which may be of service in its prompt and Satisfactory settlement.

I have the honor to be. Sir
Very Respectfully
Your most obedient Servant
Signed A L Putnam.
Chargé d' affaires ad interim in Japan.

Shanghae May 5. 1865.

Sir,

On my arrival at this place I was informed by Geo F Seward Esq^re our Consul General, that he had forwarded me a letter by the last Mail with enclosures advising me of the facts connected with the Sale of the Steamer Gingatsimaru late the Sauefield at this port by Officers of her Owner the Prince of Nagato — also of enquiries in reference thereto addressed to him by Agents of the Japanese Government through H.M.'s Consul General in Japan and Consul at this port.

This letter You have probably received ere this.

I waive all comment on the very extraordinary course of the Consul General of Holland, first in bringing this case to the notice of the Japanese Government and

A L Portman Esq^re
Chargé d' affaires ad interim
of the United States in Japan.

then

them in prosecuting such enquiries. It has probably already occurred to him that it cannot be truthfully characterised as either delicate or courteous.

The question naturally arises whether the purchasers have acquired a legal title to the Ship. - And I am clearly of the opinion this cannot be doubted.

The Daimios of Japan have been authorized to purchase Ships. And their right to sell them clearly follows unless interdicted by the Government and due notice given, which has not been done.

Nor do I see that any formality has been omitted which is necessary to pass title. The Steamer was bought to this port by Officers of the Prince and our Consul General was careful to ascertain by due proof not only their competency to act, but also to be assured of their freedom of action. - The Japanese Government has never that I am aware prescribed any rules or formalities to be observed on any such sale. - No law or

regulation.

legulation therefore has been violated.

You will observe I have thus far only considered the questions affecting the legality of the act.

I do not desire to excuse but do most decidedly condemn the highly reprehensible and illegal conduct of the Officers of the Fenang in going into the port of Simonoseki with that Steamer in aiding as it is said they did in the repair of the Pingatsimaru and assisting to bring her to this port.

In this should that ship again visit Japan You will cause proceedings to be instituted and such punishment to be imposed as may be authorized by Law.

You will inform the Government of Hell the Taicoon that before my departure I had reported all the facts then known to me to the President, who will not only be disposed but find means to visit the offenders with the proper punishment, and thus show that he will frown upon every attempt at illicit traffic in that Empire.

You

You will receive and report such Complaint and Suggestions as that Government may think proper to make with a view to the punishment of the present Offenders or the prevention of a recurrence of any such transaction. And you will also suggest to the Japanese Government the propriety of advising with the Ministers of the Treaty Powers as to the adoption of rules for the deposit of ships papers registry of vessels &c and transfer of vessels as nearly as to those observed in the United States and the Maritime Nations of Europe.

You will not fail also to call the attention of the Japanese Government to the high Satisfaction it testified when very recently I caused an examination to be instituted before our Consul at Kanagawa into the movements of the Same Steamer Teetang and that I therefore feel sure that in pursuing its enquiries through the Consul General of Holland, it was not induced to do So by any distrust either of the disposition or ability of the Ministers or other Officers of the United States to do

their whole duty, but was only misled through the Zeal shown by their adviser the Minister of the Netherlands.

They will nevertheless see that a prompt and ample explanation and apology is due to me and they will no doubt give You the pleasure to forward it with a copy of this letter to the President.

I have the honor to be.

Very Truly and Respectfully

Your Obedient Sert.

Signed J H. Pruyn

US Minister to Japan.

No 57.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Kanagawa May 22d 1865.

To
Their Excellencies
the Ministers for Foreign Affairs
&c &c &c
Yedo.

I have the honor to inform Your Excellencies that this day I received from the Honorable Mr Pruyn then at Shanghai a despatch in reference to the recent unlawful proceedings of the American Steamer Tycoon at Simonoseki. Previous to his departure Mr Pruyn had already reported all the facts then known to him to the President, who will not only be disposed but find means to visit the offenders with the proper punishment - and thus show that he will frown upon every attempt at illicit traffic

I am prepared to receive such Complaint and Suggestions as Your Excellencies may think proper to make with a view to the punishment of the Offenders in this Case and to the preventions of a recurrence of Similar transactions.

I

In this connection I beg to suggest to Your Excellencies the propriety of advising at an early day with the Representatives of the Treaty Powers as to the adoption of rules for the deposit of ships papers, registry and transfer of vessels & & analogous to those observed in the United States and the Maritime Nations of Europe.

When in January last an enquiry into the movements of the Same, Steamer Seesang was instituted by the American Consul at this port under instructions from the Honorable W.H. Seward, the Japanese Authorities certified their high satisfaction with the judicial proceedings and its results - and I feel sure that in pursuing the recent enquiries at Shanghae through the Consul General of Holland, You were not induced to do so by any distrust either of the disposition or ability of the Ministers or other officers of the United States to do their whole duty, but were only misled through the Seal shown by Your adviser the Consul General of Holland.

Your Excellencies will nevertheless

perceive

perceive that in strict justice a prompt and ample apology is due to Mr Pruyn; which I have no doubt Your Excellencies will furnish to be forwarded. together with copies of this correspondence to the President

With respect and esteem

Signed M. J. Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ad interim

of the United States in Japan.

Enclosure N. 6
with despatch N 49
dated Yeso. August 30. 1865.

To Adl Latunian Esqre
Chargé d' Affaires ad interim
of the United States of America
&c. &c. &c.

I received Your letter dated the
22nd May and understood that Mr Seward
on learning the recent unlawful proceedings
of the American Steamer "Keelung" and
desiring proper punishment to be inflicted
informed Him the President accordingly, who
is not only willing but will find the
means to punish those persons properly,
thereby giving evidence of his displeasure
You stated, that You are prepared to
receive Suggestions with a view to prevent
Similar proceedings in future, - but leaving
this for deliberation hereafter, I shall
Communicate to You the result of the
enquiry in reference to the unlawful
act of the American Steamer "Keelung"
and desire, that taking into due Con-
sideration the magnitude of the offence
and the amount of punishment to be
awarded, You will give me a Satisfactory

answer

answer.

I recently received information of the Netherlands Consul general to the effect that a Japanese ship had been taken to Shanghae (China) by a foreign ship and was sold there; I therefore asked him to enquire into the circumstances of this case, and officers, the subordinate of foreign for foreign affairs, were sent for that purpose to Shanghae.

Through the act of the Dutch Consul at Shanghae it was first learned, that the owner of the American steamer Kesang was the person who had acted in this matter; those officers therefore through the Consul procured an interview with the American Consul general, and the information thus fully obtained (the Dutch Consul acting as interpreter) is as follows:

Mr Drake the owner of the American ship "Kesang" claiming to have been requested by Nagato to sell the ship Jinkatsimaru, &c. accepted this commission and took that ship to Shanghae, where he showed a written power of attorney to the American Consul general; the Consul general however entertaining some

Suspicion

Suspicion required a statement in writing from Carl Nickel, who had acted as Interpreter on that occasion. In order to ascertain the facts still further, the Consul General sent a Chinese to communicate with the Officers of Nagato, who were onboard the Fushatsumaru, and they communicated in the Chinese written characters; he then believed Mr Drake's statement. Mr Drake and Drake & Co then bought the Ship, and the Consul General after receiving proof, that she had become Mr Drake's property, permitted her to fly the American flag. He was subsequently told by Mr Morrill, an American, and then by Messrs Russell & Co who are her present owners.-

The foregoing was communicated to me by the Officers who were sent to Shanghai on their return, stating this to be the information obtained from the American Consul General.-

According to the Treaty goods may not be bought or sold in the non opened ports.- It is therefore highly improper for the owners of the "Teetang", although authorized by Nagato, to receive the Ship Fushatsumaru in a non opened port, and make arrangements

(6)

to sell her. Besides, the Prince of Naples has entered upon hostilities against the Government. The Representatives of the Treaty Powers have been notified to that effect, and received warning, that foreign ships should not approach the coast of Nafata, and hold no intercourse with his people, to which all the Representatives assented. This must therefore have been known to American ships, who navigate the Eastern Seas, but the owner of the Ship Teetaug has acted in violation of that warning and aided and abetted the rebel.

This of course makes a great difference, and it were well if clandestine trading only had been carried on in a non-opened port. I therefore trust, that he (the Owner of the Teetaug) shall be punished according to the gravity of his offence.

I regret to have to address You on so unpleasant a subject, but it cannot be avoided. It is clearly self-evident, that Mr Drake acted in an unlawful manner.

I also think that the American Consul General at Manyhai by his actions in reference

to the Sale of the Ship cannot be considered free from blame. -

If it happens after a Treaty of peace and Amity has been concluded, that unlawful acts are committed, it is but natural to expect, that such acts be fully investigated, and the guilty parties be brought to punishment, - the honor and good faith, ~~being~~ of a Government being involved thereby. - I trust therefore, that taking the foregoing into due consideration, You will arrange in order, that a suitable Satisfaction be tendered to our Government in maintenance of the Treaty Stipulations.

This was an unexpected difficulty for our Government and I now fully inform You of it.

We asked the Consul General of the Netherlands to enquire into this matter, because it was he, who stated that a foreign vessel had recently sold a Japanese vessel at Shanghae, - and it was not known under what flag that vessel belonged. Hence he was at once

requested.

requested to institute the enquiry, and our officers were sent to Shanghae, - and it was then only that it became known to me that the American Steamer Tetang had acted thus unlawfully. - I did not ask the Consul General of the Netherlands to aid me on account of any doubt of the justice or ability of the American Minister and other officers. - I would have come to your Legation, if I had had the information, which was only given me. -

I therefore do not understand why an apology is due to Mr Pruyn; - indeed I am justly surprised. - On the contrary it seems to me very strange, that the American Minister should have failed to communicate the foregoing to our government, which he should have done as it must have been known to him from the Shanghae newspapers.

Dated in reply to your letter.

With respect and esteem:

the 29th day of the 5th month of the 1st year of Ke-ll (22 June 1865).

Signed Midzuno Shinnosuke no Kami.

№ 71.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Yedo. June. 26th 1865

To

Their Excellencies
the Ministers for Foreign Affairs
&. &. &.

Yedo.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your letter of the 29th day of the 5th month.

The first point of that letter is the unlawful proceeding of Mr Drake the owner of the American Steamer Seedang" in going to Simonoseki &. -. this has been fully admitted already — and the assurance was given that he would be held to account for it .. Since this occurrence it appears he came one night into the Port of Nagasaki to take in coal for that Steamer and if the Harbour police had notified the Consul and Governor of her presence on that occasion .. a proper Satisfaction would already have been secured

The Second point is . as admitted in Your letter, that on receiving a Communication

Yours

from the Consul General of the Netherlands, which could only have been based on a newspaper statement, publicly known at Yokohama. — and without first ascertaining whether anything in regard to this unlawful proceeding was known at the American or other Legations, the Consul General of the Netherlands was authorized to act in behalf of the Japanese Government in this matter. — Your officers then went to Shanghae to enquire into the circumstances, — and there acted with the Dutch Vice Consul under instructions to that effect from the Consul General of the Netherlands in Japan.

The Japanese Government thus became responsible for the action of the Netherlands Consul General in Japan and the Netherlands Vice Consul at Shanghae.

I have already fully explained this to Governor Foreign Affairs, showing that while no ill will was suspected, a mistake had been made, which must necessarily be interpreted as implying on your part distrust of the Ministers and

other Officers of the United States in Japan.

I would not have asked for an apology, if I did not know, that it was justly due — and fair and honorable to make it, and I am sure Your Excellency will admit this, and cause such apology to be promptly made.

With respect and esteem.

Signed A. L. Portman
Chargé d'affaires ad interim
of the United States in Japan.

Enclosure N. 8.
with despatch N. 49.
Dated Yedo. August 20th 1865.

To A. L. Portman Esqre
Chargé d' Affaires of the
United States of America
&c. &c. &c.

I have received Your letter N°71.
of the 28th June, and was pleased
to learn that You entirely agree with
me in regard to the unlawfulness
of the proceedings of the Owner of
the American Steamer Teetang, and
also acknowledge that he deserved to
be punished therefor. I have also
fully understood all You stated at
several Conferences on the subject.

You took exception to the
action of our Government; the three
Officers therefore who had charge of
this matter and conducted the investigation
at Shanghai called upon You and
made a full statement, with which
I trust You are now satisfied.

I now desire that You will
make a full statement to Your
Government on this subject and request

that

that the owner of the Steamer Seelang and all those who were connected wid him in the unlawful transaction we ferred to may be Suitably punished according to the Laws of your country.

Stated in reply.

Wid respect and Esteem

On the 9th day of the 7th month of the first Year of Kell. (29th August 1865)

Signed/ Midkiuo Odkuuu nokawi.

Consulate of the United States of America
Nagasaki May 3. 1865.

To

David Zellone U.S Marshall.

You are hereby commanded to proceed with as little delay as possible to the American steamer Keetang reported to me to be now at anchor in the bay of Kibatch and within the jurisdiction of this Consulate and to go onboard and order the Master or commanding officer to bring his vessel into the limits of this harbor as soon as the weather will permit him to do so with safety warning him not to leave this Consular District without a clearance from this Consulate. - And You are further commanded to take possession of the ships papers and to bring them to this Consulate forthwith.

And of this Order make due return.

Signed/ John S Walsh.
U.S Consul.

L.S.

Next page

1865.

May 3rd.

The within order served this day on C A Melachlin master of the Steamer Fenian who replied, he could not give up the ships papers without the authority of his owner H K Drake, who was a passenger onboard but at that time onshore.

When he returned he refused to give me the papers saying that according to the Treaty, before the expiration of 48 hours he would either leave the port or enter his vessel. — that in the meantime I was not supposed to know the Nationality of his vessel — therefore had no right to demand his papers.

Signed D L Moore.

Whitehall.

Enclosure No 10
with despatch No 49
Dated Yeddo August 2 1865.

Dispatch from U.S. Minister
for 7th Legation
Chester 2 Wash

Mr Chuler

Legation of the United States in Japan.

Yedo. September 5th 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith N:1, Copy of a Memorandum Signed Yesterday, acknowledging the receipt from the Government of the Taicoon of the Sum of five hundred thousand (500000) Dollars, as the first instalment of the indemnity, payable under the Convention of the 22nd October 1864.

As stated in my despatch N 48 of the 22nd Ultimo. this amount

The Honorable Wm H Seward.
Secretary of State
Washington.

Des.

has now been placed in equal sums of two hundred fifty thousand (250000) Dollars each in the Chartered Oriental and Chartered Mercantile Banks both at Yokohama. - Subject to the conjoint order of the four Powers represented in the aforesaid Convention. -

I beg to transmit herewith also

N 2 N°. 2 duplicate of despatch N°. 48, which may probably reach You at an earlier day than the original, - and respectfully to call Your attention to the suggestion submitted therein.

I have the honor to be, Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant.

A. L. Portman.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in Japan

Memorandum.

The Undersigned Representatives of Great Britain, France, the United States and the Netherlands hereby acknowledge to have received from the Government of the Taicoon the sum of Fivehundred thousand Dollars as the first instalment of the indemnity payable to the aforesaid four Powers under the Convention of the 22nd October 1864. $500,000.

The Government of the Taicoon having applied in April last to the aforesaid Representatives for an extension of time in respect to the payment of the second instalment of the said indemnity the aforesaid Representatives have submitted that

application

application to the consideration of their respective Governments, and now await instructions on the point. The payment of the present instalment is entirely independent of that application; but to prevent the possibility of misunderstanding, it is hereby distinctly declared that the receipt of the aforesaid Sum of Fivehundred thousand Dollars $500.000 does in no degree affect the right of the aforesaid Powers to require, if they see fit to do so, from the Government of the Saicoon the punctual payment of the whole indemnity in quarterly instalments in the manner stipulated in the aforesaid Convention.

signed/ Harry S Parkes.

H Bell. Envoy Extraordinary

&c.

and Minister Plenipotentiary in Japan.

Signed Léon Roches.

Minister Plenipotentiaire de S.M.I.
au Japon.

" A.L. Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ai: of the United States
in Japan.

" J. de Graeff van Polsbroek.

H.N.M. Political Agent and
Consul General in Japan.

at Yokohama the 4th September 1865.

Enclosure No. 1
with despatch No. 50
dated Yedo September 5th 1865.

No. 48. Duplicate.

Legation of the United States in Japan
Yedo. August 22nd 1865.

Sir,

On the morning of the 18th instant I was waited on by Governor for Foreign Affairs, who came to inform me, that the Japanese Government was prepared to pay the first instalment of five hundred thousand (500000) Dollars of the Simonoseki indemnity according to the Convention of the 22nd October 1864.

Aware that under Article 2nd of that Convention, the large sum of

The Honorable W. H. Seward.
Secretary of State.
Washington

three

three millions (3.000.000/ dollars was payable quarterly in instalments of half a million (500000/ dollars each", to begin from the "date when the Representatives of the "Power signing it should make known "to the Taicoons Government the "ratification of the Convention and "the instructions of their respective Govern. "ments". I only enquired whether similar announcements had been made to the Representatives of the other Treaty Powers.

The Governor then informed me, that early on that day another Governor for Foreign Affairs had gone to Yokohama for that purpose - and that such announcement - would probably be made to the other Representatives - in the after-

noon

noon of that day.

In order that my absence might not embarrass the action of the Representatives I accordingly went down to Yokohama at once with the object of ascertaining their views on this unexpected announcement.

The unanimous opinion was in view of the decision taken and Communicated to the Gorojio in April last, that no option was left; but that the amount tendered should be received.

I respectfully beg to refer You to Despatch N° 16 of this Series with its three enclosures.

I now have the honor to transmit herewith N° 1. Copy of a Memorandum dated the 21st August 1865, agreeing to take delivery of the Sum offered, appended N° 1.

to which a copy of an Order to the Chartered Oriental Bank and Chartered Mercantile Bank to hold that money in equal sums of two hundred fifty thousand (250000) Dollars each to the conjoint order of the Representatives of the Four Powers who signed the Convention of October 22nd 1864.

Your instructions as to the disposal of that money have no doubt been sent already; their anticipated early arrival was an additional reason why I felt no hesitation in consenting to it's being received. If the offer of the Japanese Government had not been accepted at once when made, the payment of the first instalment might have

been

been indefinitely extended, and the Con-
vention as I learned had already in
substance been approved by the Govern-
ments of Great Britain and France.

Should the whole amount of the
indemnity, namely three millions
(3.000.000/ dollars. So much larger than
originally intended, be deemed too
large, - which was Mr Roussin's opinion
as expressed in his despatch N° 65 of
the 29th October 1864, I beg respectfully
to suggest, inasmuch as it is stated
in Article 3rd of that Convention
that "the receipt of money has never
"been the object of the said Treaty Powers
"but the establishment of better relations
"with Japan" &c - that a portion of
that indemnity, say five hundred thousand

dollars

(500000) Dollars might be most advantageously employed in improvements in both the foreign and Japanese Settlements at the opened ports; such as drainage, cleaning streets &c. In no manner, that I am aware of, could any portion of such indemnity be employed to greater advantage, and be of more lasting benefit to both our political and Commercial relations with this Country.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A. L. Portman.

Chargé d' affaires ad interim

in Japan.

Memorandum.

The Government of the Taicoon having offered in April last to pay in the course of the sixth month of the Japanese Year of Genji (which terminated Yesterday Sunday 20th August) to the Representatives of the Foreign Powers who signed the Convention of the 22nd October 1864 a sum of five hundred thousand dollars $500.000/. as the first instalment of the indemnity stipulated for in the said Convention - and the said offer having been accepted in April last by the Representatives of the signing Powers; and Tamura Higo no Kami having tendered on the nineteenth instant to the Undersigned on the part of the Government of the Taicoon the said sum of five hundred thousand dollars.

the

the Undersigned hereby record their agreement to take delivery of the said money, and with a view to its safe custody to authorize by the letter at foot the deposit of the same in two equal sums of two hundred and fifty thousand Dollars in the Chartered Oriental Bank and the Chartered Mercantile Bank at Yokohama, each bank to receive one of the said sums and to hold the same subject to the instructions now expected from the respective Governments of the Undersigned as to the manner in which the said money is to be disposed of.

Signed at H.B.M's Legation this 21st day of August A.D. 1865.

Signed Harry S. Parkes.
H.B.M. Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary

Signed H.J. Fortune
Chargé d'Affaires ai of the United States
" Dr. Geerts
H.M. Vice Consul General.
" P. Cheney Adamson.
Chancellor of Consulate General of France.
" Ste de Turenne.
Attaché.

pour la Légation de France

1

do J. B. Richard Esqre. Manager
of the Chartered Oriental Bank Yokohama and
A. Pratt Esqre. Manager
of the Chartered Mercantile Bank Yokohama.

You are hereby authorized to receive from the Japanese Authorities the Sum of two hundred and fifty thousand Dollars, - and $250000 to hold the Same to our conjoint order.

As the delivery of this Sum may extend over several days You will give a receipt at the close of each day for the amount received on that day, which will be Countersigned by Mr Enden, Japanese Secretary to H. Bell's Legation.

Signed H. S. P.
Alf. P.
D. de G. P.
p. Mr Adams. P. C. R.
for L. P.

Enclosure N° 3.
with Despatch N° 50
Dated Yedo. September 5th 1865.

Rec'd 18. Nov Mr Eustis

No 57.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yeddo September 8th. 1865.

Sir.

I have the honor to inform You, that the supply of blankbooks, stationery &c, in two boxes sent to this Legation in the care of the Consul General at Shanghae, as stated in Your despatch No 87 of the 9th January last, has reached here in excellent condition.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A. L. Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ai: in Japan.

The Honorable W. H. Seward.

Secretary of State

Washington.

Rec'd Oct 31
No. 52

Mr Chubin

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo September 13th 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith Copy of a correspondence on the subject of alleged interference in the purchase by American merchants of silk worm eggs and cocoons at Kanagawa, — and to inform You that all restrictions have been removed.

Enclosure No 1. Mr Fisher to Mr Portman August 14th No 1

" No 2. Mr Portman to the Gorojio August 15th No 2.

" No 3. Mr Fisher to Mr Portman. September 4th No 3.

The Honorable W. H. Seward

Secretary of State

Washington.

No 4.

N.4 Enclosure N.4 Hesonojo to Mr Portman. September 7th

N.5 " N.5 Mr Portman to Mr Fisher " 7th

N.6 " N.6 Mr Portman to Mr Fisher " 9th

N.7 " N.7 Mr Fisher to Mr Portman " 11th

For several years the Silk crops of France, Italy and other Silk raising countries decreased, owing to a more or less alarming disease among the Silkworms. Renewal of the species thus became of the greatest importance; seed from China and Bengal failed, but the Japanese ova succeeded beyond expectation; - and until such seed shall become acclimated in those Countries, they will be chiefly dependent upon Japan for a yearly supply of the same.

It would appear that the interference only complained of at Kanagawa, and not

at,

at the other opened ports was caused by the unauthorized actions of the local Authorities. Three American firms are alleged to have sustained losses in consequence of this interference, and their Complaints are now being examined by Mr Consul Fisher in conjunction with the present Governor of Kanagawa, whose predecessor was removed.

Should they have undoubted claims, I trust they will be of easy settlement at that port; I beg to assure you however that in no case shall I make any demand upon the Japanese Government unless expressly authorized to do so.-

I have the honor to be &c

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A L Portman.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in Japan.

Geo. September 13th 1865

A. L. Portman

Chargé d'affaires ad interim

No. 52.

T. Enclosures

Received.

All restrictions in the purchase of Wildromeff cocoons removed.

N: 250.

Consulate of the U.S. of America
Kanagawa. Japan. August 14th 1865.

Sir.

Serious Complaints are made to me by the American houses of Messrs Allmand & Co and Messrs Walsh Hall & Co of direct and indirect interference in their trade and thereby of positive daily violations made by the Japanese of Art III of the Treaty made with the ~~United States~~ July 29. 1858 in regard to their freely buying silkworms eggs and cocoons from the Japanese Merchants who have them to sell by the Japanese Custom House Officials of

A. L. Portman Esqre.
Chargé d' affaires ad interim
Yedo.

th.

of this port in that they only suffer certain named Japanese Merchants to sell these important staples by their payment of a certain bonus or kignonage to other specially licensed Merchants of this port.

It is said this way of doing business has been ordered by the Gorojis or Government at Yedo and I will be greatly obliged to You for the earliest possible denial of such interference and for such information as You may be able to procure as to what if any instructions have been given the Custom House Officials of this port in respect to Japanese Merchants selling silkworm eggs and cocoons freely and whether the Government deliberately

and

and openly intend its subject officials
or otherwise to violate and set at
naught our treaty rights and thus
embarrass and restrict the lawful
rights of our Merchants trade and
commerce at this port.

Your early attention and answer
will greatly oblige our mercantile
interests here - and enable me to
communicate with them more intelligibly
what steps are best to be taken in
view of the damages they are now
daily suffering in consequence of
this official interference so justly com-
plained of.

I have the honor to be. &c

Very respectfully
Your Obt Servant
Signed Geo. T. Fisher
U.S. Consul.

Enclosure No. 1

With despatch No. 52

Dated Fedr. September 13th 1865.

No 83.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. August 15th 1865.

To

His Excellency

Midzuno Idzumi no Kami

Minister for Foreign Affairs

&c. &c. &c

Yedo.

I have the honor to inform Your Excellency, that I received this day a letter from the American Consul at Kanagawa, containing grave Complaints of interference in the purchase of Silkwormeggs and cocoons by American Merchants at that place in daily violation of Article III of the Treaty. — and to request

Your

You to desire the Governor of Kanagawa with such Officers who are well acquainted with the matter to visit me at the earliest moment for the purpose of examining those Complaints in view of their prompt removal.

With respect and esteem.

Signed/ A. L. Portman.

Charge d'Affaires ai: of the United States in Japan.

N. 279.

Consulate of the U.S. of America
Kanagawa. Japan. September 4. 1865.

Sir,

As the season is rapidly advancing and will soon draw to a close for the business of silkworm eggs for this year. You will excuse me for recalling your attention to my N. 250 of the 14th Ultimo in relation to the interference of Custom House officials in the purchase and sale of silkworm eggs at this port and request if possible that you will give me information in the course of this week as to what information

A.L. Portman Esq.
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim
in Japan.

You

You have obtained in relation thereto from the Government at Yedo that I may without further delay conclude what steps had best be taken in regard to the interests of American Merchants and traders in that relation.

I have further to advise You that the American house of Messrs Schultze Aeis & Co of this port have made the same complaint to me in regard to interference and necessity for further Home permits as Messrs Walsh Hall & Co and Messrs Allmand & Co.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very respectfully

Your Obt Servant.

Signed Geo. L. Fisher

U.S. Consul.

To
H.E. Portman Esqre.
Charge d' affairs of the
United States of America.

&c. &c.

As it has been represented that foreigners meet with inconvenience in purchasing Silkwormeggs from our Merchants, I have again instructed the Governor of Kanagawa to allow this article to be as freely sold as any other article of Commerce.

Stated for your information in reply with respect and esteem.

The 16th day of the 7th month of the 1st Year of Ke. Ō. (7th September 1865.)

Signed / Mitsuno Hōkiō no Kami.

No 90.

Legation of the United States in Japan.

Yedo. September 9th 1865.

Sir.

On receipt of your letter No 250 of the 14th Ultimo. I at once addressed the Gorojio on the subject, and after several interviews with Governor for Foreign affairs I was informed in reply that instructions had again been issued to the Governor of Kanagawa to the effect that the trade in Silk Worm eggs should be as free as the trade in any other article.

Presuming that all cause of Complaint for the future has thus been

Geo. S. Fisher Esq
US Consul.
Kanagawa.

removed.

removed, it remains to ascertain the losses sustained by our Merchants from this alleged interference in the purchase of Silkworms eggs - and I now have the honor to request You to transmit to me all such bona fide claims, in order that they may be presented to the Government for examination without delay.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
Signed A de Portuzan.
Chargé d'affaires ad interim
in Japan. -

N. 92.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. September 9th. 1865.

Sir.

I have the honor to request you to present the complaints of the American Merchants for interference in the purchase by them of silkworm eggs for examination to the present Governor of Kanagawa. who in conjunction with a Governor for Foreign affairs if necessary has been authorized to examine the same.

Geo. S. Fisher Esqre.

U.S. Consul

Kanagawa.

I have

in compliance with the suggestions made it has been deemed that an investigation of the said complaints at your port, where witnesses if required may be examined, would lead more promptly to the result desired.

I have the honor to be, Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obt. Servant

Signed A. L. Portman.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

in Japan.-

Consulate of the U.S. of America

Kanagawa Japan. September 11. 1865.

No. 283.

Sir,

Your communications No. 90 and 92 of the 7th and 9th instant are received and will have my attention with the Governor of Kanagawa &c. and as suggested - and I conceive in opinion that this is the better plan than to refer those claims to Yedo in the first instance.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Servant

Signed Geo. I. Fisher

U.S. Consul.

A. L. Portman Esqre

Chargé d'affaires ad interim

Yedo.

Rec'd 14 Dec Mr Clarke

No. 53.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. September 15th. 1865.

Sir,

With reference to my despatch No 49 of the 30th Ultimo, I now have the honor to enclose herewith No 1. copy of my letter to the Secretary General of the Netherlands and No 2 copy of his reply, with one Sub Enclosure. No. 1 No. 2

If, as inferred from Mr Van Polsbroek's despatch he succeeded in making himself understood to Mr Senyi, it would appear that the blame with regard to the Officiousness

The Honorable W H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

Referred

referred to in my despatch N. 49. chiefly attached to the Netherlands Vice Consul at Shanghae., and under those circumstances the matter appeared to me to require no further notice, as the principal object of the Netherlands Consul General in Japan was avowedly to aid the Japanese Government in securing the arrest of the insurgent Subjects of Choshiu then reported at Shanghae.

I have the honor to be in

Very respectfully

your most Obedient Servant.

A L Portman

Chargé d' affaires ad interim in Japan.

No 89

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. September 4th 1865.

Sir,

In reply to a letter addressed to the Gonojo in reference to the recent unlawful proceedings of the American Steamer Teetang in Japan, I was informed, that it was under your auspices that Japanese Officers went to Shanghae; where they acted in conjunction with H.B.M.'s Vice Consul at that port in soliciting information in regard to those unlawful proceedings referred to.

Mr Pruyn, who shortly after the departure of those Japanese Officers from

J. de Graeff van Polsbroek Esqre.
H.B.M.'s Political Agent and
Consul General in Japan.

Shanghae.

Shanghae, arrived at that place on his way home under a leave of absence, was then made acquainted with the action of Hon Mr Vice Consul, who in a letter addressed to the Consul General of the United States had stated, that he acted at Your request, leaving it to be inferred, that the omission in not addressing this Legation before acting at Shanghae was an intentional one, and calculated to show distrust of Mr Perry's ability or willingness to do his duty in a matter of such importance as this flagrant infringement of the Treaty by an American Seamen.

In view of the distinguished courtesy which invariably has characterized your intercourse with this Legation, your action in the matter of

then

there enquiries at Shanghae is no doubt of easy explanation - and both in justice to Mr Pruyn and Yourself I now have the honor to request You to furnish such explanation which I feel assured will remove the inference, suggested both by the letter of the Gouyis - and the proceeding of H. Mill; Vice Consul at Shanghae referred to; - of any action on Your part: having been at variance with that cordial accord among the Foreign Representatives, which has been productive of so much benefit, and which it is so desirable to maintain unimpaired.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to You the assurance of the high consideration with which I have the honor to be.

Your most obedient Servant

signed A. L. Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ai. of the United States in Japan.

Enclosure No 1.
with despatch No: 53
Dated Gds. September 15th. 1865.

Mr Paterson & Mr Polshook.

N: 107/230.

Kanagawa 14th September 1865.

Sir,

In reply to Your despatch dated 4th September and received the 7th instant, I have the honor to state that some time ago I learned out of a private letter from Shanghae that the Japanese Steamer Gingatsimaro belonging to the rebel Prince Mori Daizen had arrived at Shanghae in company with the American Steamer Monitor and was to be sold there at public auction according to a printed Circular

Adl Portman Esqre
Ul Chargé d'affaires a:
in Japan.

and

and inventory enclosed in the same letter.

Happening to meet Mr Pruyn a few moments later, I showed him the inventory and communicated to him the intelligence received.

The same day a Governor of Foreign Affairs just arrived from Yedo called on me, and after having transacted some other business, I told him that I had received a private letter by which I was informed that a steamer belonging to the Prince Mori Daiven had arrived at Shanghae and was to be sold there.

A few days later and on the eve of the departure of the mail I received another visit of a Governor of Foreign Affairs informing me that the Japanese

Japanese Government was much surprised about the proceeding and wanted to send three Officers per Mailsteamer to Shanghae to make some enquiries about the arrival at that place of the Yuigatsimaro", but mine especially to arrest the Officers of said Steamer, who had left their Country without the permission of the Government;- I was requested at the same time to invite H.B.M.'s Consul at Shanghae to render assistance to those Officers in order that they might obtain the information desired, and arrest the Japanese who left their country without Special permission of their Government.

I accordingly wrote the letter to H.B.M.'s Consul at Shanghae, of which

I

I take the liberty to enclose a copy.

His information will I feel assured remove the inference alluded to by you, and which I am sorry to learn caused some uneasiness to Mr Pruyn.

I have the honor to be.

Sir,

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant.

Signed D de Graeff van Polsbroek

H.M.'s Political Agent and

Consul General in Japan.

Copy. N° 48/104.

Kanagawa 13th April 1865.

Sir,

I beg to introduce to Your acquaintance the Japanese Officers:

1. Ichikawa Iwaji
2. Ligura Aito and
3. the Japanese interpeter Nishi Kichijiro

who have been sent by the Japanese Government of Shanghae for the purpose of obtaining information with regard to the peculiar and mysterious public sale of the Japanese Steamer Singatsumaro, formely the Lancefield" belonging to the Prince of

To the Consul of the Netherlands
at Shanghae.

Sir,

Your

Iwao and Nagato.

As the Japanese Government availed themselves of Your services on former occasions, I have been asked to request You to lend the said Officers Your aid and advice.

1. In obtaining information with regard to the arrival of the Singatsumaro at Your place in Company with the American Steamer "Monitor" and to the peculiar and mysterious sale of that vessel.

2. In causing the arrest and transportation to this place of the Japanese Officers and Sailors belonging to the "Gingatsumaro."

On behalf of the Japanese Government I have also to request You to lend said Officers such pecuniary aid

they

they may require; any money thus advanced will be refunded on demand.

You will greatly oblige me by informing me of the result of your efforts, and of the mission of the three Japanese Officers abovenamed.

I have informed the Government of the Netherlands by this mail that the Japanese Government applied to me for aid in this matter, and they will be pleased no doubt to learn from You the result of Your action in their behalf

Trusting You will succeed in contributing to the successful termination of the mission of these three Japanese Officers

I have the honor to be

Your most obedient Servant

The Consul General and Political Agent of the Netherlands in Japan.

Signed J. de Graeff van Polsbroek.

Sub Enclosure N. 1
with Enclosure N. 2
with despatch N. 53
Dated Yedo. September 15th 1865.

Rec'd Dec 14.

Abstr. N: 54.

From Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. September 22nd 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith N:1. Copy of a letter received from the Gorojio in reply to representations made, informing me of the abolition of the regulations concerning the trade in rice, awabi and Sharksfins, important articles of commerce principally at Nagasaki for the China markets. N:1

I enclose N:2. Copy of a letter addressed by me to Mr Mangum at N:2.

The Honorable W.H Seward

Secretary of State

Washington.

Nagasaki

Nagasaki ; Similar letters on the subject were addressed to the Consul at Kanagawa and Commercial Agent at Hakodate. -

I can claim no merit for this important concession, which like the removal of the restrictions in the purchase of Silkwormeggs and Cocoons, the subject matter of my despatch N° 52 of the 13th instant, is the result of prompt and united action under the perfect accord existing among the Foreign Representatives in this Country.

I have the honor to be &c

Very respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A. L. Portman.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in Japan

A. L. Portman Esqre
Chargé d'affaires of the
United States in Japan

&c. &c. &c.

I have the honor to in-
form you, that I have instructed
the Governors at the three opened
ports to notify the Consuls of the
Treaty Powers at those places respectively,
that it has been decided to
abolish the hitherto existing regulations
concerning the trade in irico, dried
Awabi and Sharksfins, - and that
from the 20th day of our 9th
month (the 8th November next) the
trade in those articles shall hereafter
be as free as that in any other
article

article of Commerce.

The Governor at the opened ports may possibly find it convenient to give effect to this decision at an earlier day, in which case the Consuls of the Treaty Powers will be duly notified by them.

I have to request You to make the foregoing known to the Consuls of the ~~United States~~ in this Country.

With respect and esteem:

The 2nd Day of the 8th month of the 1st Year of Ke: H - (21st September 1865.

Signed/ Midsumo Shonnirokuro.

No. 94.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo September 21. 1865.

Sir.

I have the honor to in-
form you that this day I received a
letter from the Gorojio to the effect that
the Governors of the opened ports have
been instructed to abolish the hitherto
existing regulations complained of as
restricting the trade in rice, awabi
and sharkfins; - and that from the
20th day of the 9th month (the
9th November of this year) the said
articles may be as freely purchased

W. P. Mangum Esqre.
U.S. Consul
Nagasaki.

&c

as any other articles of Commerce.

The date as above mentioned has been fixed with a view of inaugurating this improvement at the opened ports on the same day according to precedent; - though it is optional with the Governor at each port to allow it take effect at an earlier day; and on Caution enquiry to be made at the Custom House at your port. I trust You will find that the Governor has availed himself of the privilege granted him - and that all the regulations of a restrictive character above referred to have been already abolished from the date of the receipt of his instructions.

Permit me to request You to make the foregoing known to all

American

American Merchants within your
jurisdiction.

I have the honor to be &c
Very respectfully
Your ob. Servant
Signed A. L. Portman.
Chargé d' affaires ad interim
at Japan.

Enclosure N. 2
With despatch N 54.
Dated Yedo September 22nd 1866.

Mr Clutz
No. 55.

Legation of the United States in Japan.

Yedo September 25th 1865.

Sir,

Mr Mangum will have informed you already of his arrival at his post of duty. - He arrived at Yokohama on the 6th and left on the 21st instant for Nagasaki in the American Steamer "Pembroke" - - the first opportunity that was offering - - after spending two days at the Legation.

As soon as he arrived at Yedo, I arranged his meeting the Senior

The Honorable W. H. Seward.

Secretary of State

Washington.

Nagasaki

Nagasaki Officials, constantly visiting here as the advisers of their Government on Nagasaki Affairs, with whom he had a pleasant and satisfactory interview; - and Mr. Mangum has no doubt entered now upon the discharge of his Consular duties with every prospect of success.

I have the honor to be Sir.

Very Respectfully

Your most obedient Servant.

A. L. Portman.

Chargé d' affaires ad interim in Japan. -

Rec'd Dec 1st

No. 56

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. October 1. 1865.

Sir,

Presuming with reference to my despatch No. 27 of the 29th. April last, that You have been pleased to send me a letter of credit as therein applied for, I shall not draw for this quarter's Salary, but await the arrival of your instructions now expected at an early day.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very respectfully.

Your most Obedient Servant

A. L. Portman.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

in Japan.

The Honorable.

Wm H. Seward.

Secretary of State

Washington.

Recd St. dep.
No 57.

Mr Pruyn

Legation of the United States in Japan
Yedo. October 1. 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith No 1. my account of Contingent Ex. pences of the Legation for the quarter ending the 30th September 1865, showing balance in my hand this day of $ 156.41/

I have the honor to be Sir

Very respectfully
your most obedient servant

A L Portman.
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in Japan.

The Honorable. Wm H. Seward.
Secretary of State
Washington.

No 4 to Lord 2 Lord Clarendon Mr Chilton
of No 38 Sept

Legation of the United States in Japan.
Yedo October 10th. 1865.-

Sir,

I exceedingly regret to have to transmit herewith copy of a correspondence between Mr Jonas Fisher and myself.- as follows:

Enclosure No: 1. Mr Fisher to Mr Portman, No 1
stating that the Japanese officials had attempted to take possession vi et armis of their Konagatamachi house at Yokohama, with one Sub Enclosure.- Mr Fisher to (No 1)
Edward Banks, the US Marshal, commanding him to protect that house against Japanese

The Honorable W H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

Officials

officials by calling if necessary on the posse Comitatis the American residents at Yokohama.

N.2. Enclosure N.2. Mr Portman to Mr Fisher in relation to judicial authority.

N.3 Enclosure N.3. Mr Fisher to Mr Portman in relation to Taiko &c

N.4 Enclosure N.4. Mr Portman to Mr Fisher urging reconciliation with the local Authorities.

At my request the Yedo Governor of Kanagawa in company with a Governor for Foreign Affairs called on me to day for the purpose of explaining the alleged attempt to take possession with armed of that Komagatamachi house at Yokohama.-

The Governor denied that any such

attempt

attempt had been made, and denounced
Mr Fisher's statement, as being wholly
without foundation; in proof of this
denial the governor informed me, that
this house was still occupied by English
French and Portuguese Subjects, - and if
their ejectment had been attempted, they
would undoubtedly have addressed themselves
to their respective Consuls and not to
Mr Fisher or his Marshal for protection.

Both the English and Portuguese Consuls
of Kandyan who came to see me while
on a visit to this Capital, assured me
that no complaints whatever had been
made to them by their respective Subjects,
who are still the occupants of those
Konagatamathi premises, - and that they
fully believe, that no such attempt as

alleged

alleged by Mr Fisher was ever contemplated much less made.

No efforts of mine shall be wanting to bring about a reconciliation between Mr Fornel Fisher and the foreigners and other Authorities of Kanagawa.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A L Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ad interim in Japan

Consulate of the US of America

Kanagawa Japan. October 2. 1865.

p. 316.

Sir,

I am informed this morning that by Your desire and request certain Japanese Officials proceeded to American N.25 Konagatamatshi the premises occupied and claimed as the property of the late Raphael Schnyer Esq. and attempted to take possession of the Same vi et armis.

That You should have made such a Suggestion in the lifetime of Mr Schnyer would not have surprised me, but that You should do

Alf Portman Esq.
Chargé d' affaires ad interim
US Legation in Japan
at
Yedo.

to it now that he is deceased pending the decision of his appeal taken from your decision in that Case. and which must soon be forever settled by the highest Authority the Department of State, probably within 40 to 50 days from this date, I must confess did Surprise me, and shock a deposition towards the rights of parties, the widow and heirs at law of the claimant and apellant which I Cannot understand. and am at a positive loss to explain.

In order however and for that purpose alone to protect what I believe to be the just rights of American Citizens and of all parties interested or Concerned in the said premises. pending the decision of said appeal, I this day in Consequence

of

of your advice and actions, which I am duly informed of by the Governor of Kanagawa have issued my writ out of this US Consular Court under Seal of this Consulate directed to the US Marshall Edward Banks Esq. a copy of which and for your full information, I beg herewith to enclose to You, marked enclosure N. 1.

I have the honor to be &c

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Servant.

Signed/ Geo. Fisher

US Consul.

Enclosure N. 1.
With despatch N. 58
dated Feds. October 10th. 1885.

US Consular Court.

Consulate of the United States of America

Kanagawa Japan. October 2d 1865.

To Edward Banks Esq:

US Marshall:

You are hereby commanded with such force as may be necessary by calling on the posse comitatus the American citizens resident of this port to proceed to American lot N. 25 Komagatamachi and to protect and maintain the possessory rights of the estate of Raphael Schnyer deceased in the said premises against all persons whatsoever and especially against any and all Japanese two sworded men or officials, who may attempt to take

occupation

occupation of the same — and You are further directed to warn all persons from any and every unlawful attempt to take or interfere with the possession of the said premises and to maintain the possessory rights of the said estate as aforesaid against all persons whatsoever pending the appeal of the late R. Schryer from the decision of Mr. Alf Fortescue Chargé d Affaires ad interim US Legation in Japan and of all Your proceedings in this behalf make due and full return according to Law.

Given under my hand and Consular Seal this day and Year first above written

Signed Geo. Fisher

US Consul.

L.S.

N° 98

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo October 3rd 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your letter N° 316 of Yesterday and to inform You in reply that I never desired nor requested any Japanese Officials to take forcible possession of the Tomagalamatchi house at Your place. - Since rendering my decision on the 5th June last no action has been taken by me in this matter with the Japanese Government beyond expressing the opinion to a Vice Governor of Kanagawa on his application that at the expiration of the sixty days granted to the various

Geo. L. Fisher Esq.
U.S. Consul.
Kanagawa.

occupants.

occupants of that house on condition of
removal the Government of Kanagawa
has an undoubted right to take possession
of that house, which always was their
property, and which has for so long
a period unlawfully been withheld
from them.

You must have been aware
that my decision was rendered under
Article III. of the Treaty, and under
section 22nd of the Act approved June
22nd 1860. - and you must also be
acquainted with the opinion of the
Attorney General of September 19. 1855
published by the Department of State
for the instruction of the Diplomatic and
Consular Officers of the United States in
the East. October 8. 1855 and republished in

1862, - in which it is clearly stated "that
"it has never been doubted that the
Secretary of Legation in China or any
"other Acting Chargé d' Affaires could officiate
"as Judge in virtue of treaty and Statute."

I beg further to refer You to the closing paragraphs of the Attorney General's opinion above mentioned, from which You will perceive that my decision in the Ko. Majatamatsu case" - which is quite analogous to the case therein referred to - has validity as an arbitral award.

In that decision I became responsible under Section 23d of the Act approved June 22d 1860 - as stated therein and under the same Section You will be held liable for any resistance to the carrying my decision into effect; - which liability

liability may be enhanced. Should any collision unfortunately occur between the Officers of the Kanagawa Government and such persons who may act as the instruments of Your unwarranted resistance.

Should my decision however be disapproved of by the Department of State, of which I feel quite confident there is not the slightest probability - the heirs or assigns of the late Mr Schnyer might then acquire certain rights not hitherto possessed, - and in such event the right thus acquired under the sanction of the Government of the United States cannot be difficult of maintenance.

Presuming that the Safety Pass granted by the Kanagawa Authorities to the various occupants of that Koma

Satametsu

Gatematsu house on condition of removal have now expired. You will please withdraw all further resistance to the execution of my decision - and to the peaceable taking possession of that house by its rightful owners, the Kanagawa Authorities.

I have the honor to be Sir

Respectfully

Your Obt Servant.

Signed Alf Fortune.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in Japan.

N: 317

Consulate of the U.S. of America

Kanagawa Japan October 4th 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt this morning of your despatch N: 98 of the 3d instant and beg to say the only and real difference between ourselves about the Schogun Komagatamatshi lot hinges on your authority.

1st My opinion is you are not Chargé d'affaires of the United States of America as contemplated by the Attorney General of the United States in the authority

H.H. Pattison Esq.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

U.S. Legation

Yedo.

You

You refer to.

2d You are only Chargé d'affaires ad interim, not ad hoc and have no judicial authority or power whatever; and under the 22d Section of the Act of Congress July 2d (not 22d) 1860, I am in the absence of the Minister Resident to Japan, the highest judicial officer or authority in Japan; and any appeal from the judicial decision of our Consuls at Nagasaki & Hakodade must in the interim during the absence of the Minister & regularly appointed Chargé d'affaires by the President ie ad hoc. be in my legal opinion referred to me. And

3d Because You are now as You have ever been since Your last

Commission

Commission "Interpreter to the U.S. Legation in Japan".

Were you like Mr Williams at Pekin "Secretary of Legation and Interpreter" and Mr Brown at Constantinople "Secretary of Legation and Dragoman" in "were your Commission "Secretary of Legation and Interpreter" or were you Chargé d'affaires ad hoc then I grant you would have the semblance of authority and power intimated by the Attorney General; but in your present Capacity as Interpreter to the U.S. Legation and pro tempore Chargé d'affaires ad interim of the Legation. You have no such power as you have assumed - nor did the Hon Attorney General ever contemplate investing you with any such power

n.

or authority.

Should our Government sustain your views and decision, of course I cannot object and will most cheerfully acquiesce notwithstanding all your ill nature and extraordinary treatment of myself in this matter.

And it is true I have had no personal feeling in this case and there would not have arisen one unpleasant word about it but for yourself and certain outside parties whom you have allowed to influence you, - and who have all brought their influence to bear upon the Governor of Kanagawa if not the Government at Yedo.

As to the validity of your "arbitral award", if I rightly comprehend

Your

Your meaning. it will certainly be a new thing if it be confirmed by our Government. I did not however before understand that this matter of Mr Schnyder's right in this case had been settled by arbitration, and was under the impression You had judicially decided the right of his possession adverse to him, and that he had appealed from Your decision to the Department of State.

I am happy to receive Your disclaimer as to having given advice as stated by the Governor of Kanagawa in the matter of taking possession or et armis of this lot pending the decision of that appeal, - and beg now to appeal to Your General good sense to

influence

influence the Japanese Officials to let this whole matter remain in abeyance for 40 to 50 days more at which time unquestionably your decision will be confirmed or rejected and then the whole matter will be settled without further question.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Servant

Signed Geo. S. Dickey

U.S. Consul.

No. 100.

Legation of the United States in Japan.

Yedo. October 9th 1861

Sir,

Your letter of the 4th instant was received by me in the afternoon of the day before Yesterday. (Saturday)

I have to inform you in reply that when Mr Pruyn left Japan under leave of absence, the discharge of all his duties devolved upon me, - and I shall certainly discharge those duties with firmness and moderation - and, I trust, to the satisfaction of our Government.

It is my great regret I have also to inform you that an official letter

Geo. I. Fisher Esq.
Ufficial.
Kanagawa.

Las.

has been received by me from which it appears that Mr Banks the U.S Marshall at Your port "in a highly passionate manner" had threatened to employ force should any Japanese official enter the Ko. magatamatchi house. - I am still at a loss to understand why the Japanese officials at Your port should wish to take possession of a tenement of that house as You stated in Your letter of the 2d instant, for which no necessity is likely to arise even if provocation had been offered.

I desired to confer with the Yedo Governor of Kanagawa on the subject, but learn that both Governors at present are absent from Yedo. - The only point quite clearly established both from Your

letter

letter and the official letter referred to is that there exists a strongly marked ill feeling between yourself and the foreman of your post, which can only exercise an injurious influence upon all your formular transactions, - and my prompt efforts towards effecting a reconciliation shall not be wanting.

I beg to suggest that it is quite possible a strong pressure has been brought to bear upon the Governor of Kanagawa to take peaceable possession at an early day of that Komagatamachi house in consequence of the recent riot on those premises, when eight or nine foreign Sailors assaulted the Constabulary force and nearly killed the Superintendent of police.

One

You are no doubt aware that this is not the first instance that murderous assaults have been committed on these premises. I allow therefore this matter to remain in abeyance for another period of fifty days as I suggest, would be simply (presuming of course that all the foreign occupants have now vacated those premises) to prolong for such a length of time at least and most likely aggravating the estrangement between yourself and the Governor of Kanagawa; which it is of great importance to have removed at the earliest possible moment.

By issuing your order to the U.S Marshall Mr Saurs of the 2nd instant, which, permit me to say, was a hasty ill considered and wholly uncalled for

measure

measure. You assumed an attitude of hostility toward the Governor of Kanagawa, with whom it is your undoubted duty to cultivate friendly relations.

You will assuredly agree with me, if the late Mr Schnyer possessed any right to that Kanagatamachi house, - that such right can never be promoted by any action on your part calculated to push the estrangement unfortunately existing between yourself and the local Authorities to a point at which reconciliation may be rendered impossible.

All the interests involved in this wearisome question are best subserved by a prompt occupation of

the

the Tomigatamachi premises by the Kanagawa Authorities for an Academy for foreign languages. - and I now again appeal to You to withdraw all resistance to such peaceable occupation.

I have the honor to be Sir

Respectfully

Your obt servant

Signed Adl Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ai: in Japan.

Rec'd 16 Jany. Mr Clarke

No 59.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo October 12th 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches Nos. 88 and 92 dated the 9th February and 16th May respectively, and also of two Circulars both dated the 17th April - all of this year.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A L Portman.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in Japan

The Honorable W H Seward.

Secretary of State

Washington.

Rec'd 16 Jany.

No 60.

Mr Pruyn

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. October 16th 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No 93 of the 28th June last, and to inform you that the correction as to date and Number in your despatch No 86 has been made as directed.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A L Portman.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in Japan

The Honorable W H. Seward

Secretary of State

Washington.

Rec'd 16 Jany. Mr Chester.
Acts as interpreter

No. 61.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. October 20th. 1865.

Sir,

The Taicoon and his Daimios are still absent from this Capital; troops are still going forward to Osacca, where the headquarters are established, - and nearly all the Available Naval forces of this Government are at anchor off Hiogo. Two armed Japanese vessels are constantly watching the Nagato Coast and

The Honorable W. H. Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

occasionally

occasionally other vessels are despatched
on a cruize in the Inland Sea,
for the purpose of preventing the landing
of arms and munitions in Shokoku,
and the disarmament of the Simono-
seki batteries.

The internal policy of this
Government is as formerly wrapped
in almost impenetrable mystery,
and as usual rumours are plentiful;
It is with the greatest caution -
therefore that I approach this subject,
experience having taught, that rumors
should not always be utterly disregarded,
as they often form a clue to what is
actually transpiring in the Country.

Informal Communications from
educated persons, not in the employ

of

of this Government; in connection with official statements, I have been fortunate enough to elicit, lead me to infer, that the present state of affairs in this Country, is in a fair way toward an early Solution in a form acceptable to our interests of the hitherto existing internal Complications.-

It appears to be beyond doubt, that the Mikado and Taicoon cordially agree upon all matters of internal as well as foreign policy.

The Taicoon unquestionably Commands the Situation. With the two prominent Members of the Sogio, who accompany him, I am well acquainted, and I therefore feel quite confident, that as vigorous

a

a policy will ~~be~~ pursued by this Govern-
ment as circumstances will render
advisable.

The Prince of Choshu still persists
in his rebellion.

In most of the provinces of
this Empire there are besides the
Daimio of the Province, so called
because he either is the lineal descendant
of the founder of the princely dynasty,
or his legal representative by birth,
other personages, also more or less
directly tracing their origin to the
founder of such dynasty, many of
whom, being Daimios, or Members of
the high nobility in their own right,
often rank with Daimios of the
first class, particularly if their wealth

V

enables

enables them to keep a princely state and retinue.

There are known to be Daimios nearly ranking with first class Noblemen in the Provinces of Omo and Nagato, and it is supposed, that the pressure now being brought to bear upon them by the united influences of the Mikado and Taicoon, will lead to their abandoning the course of action, which the Prince of Choshu, - the senior Daimio of those Provinces, apparently compelled them to adopt; - and it is expected, that as soon as he shall find himself sufficiently isolated, the submission of this rebellious Prince may be attained without further resort to Coercive measures.

The

It is as yet uncertain when the Taicoon and Daimios may be expected to resume their residence in this Capital; this is not likely to take place for some time.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient servant.

A. L. Portman.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in Japan.

Rec.d Nov. —

Mr Shilton

Rome, October 25. 1865.

Sir;

When I availed myself of the leave of absence which was so long ago kindly granted me, I indulged the hope that I might return to my post of duty accompanied by my family. I find after consultation that this will be impossible.

I therefore respectfully tender my resignation and hope the President will not find the situation of affairs in Japan such as to make its acceptance prejudicial to the public interests.

With profound thanks for the generous confidence bestowed on me and the hope that my labours at my distant post of duty under circumstances of extreme

Hon: William H. Seward,
Secretary of State, Washington.

and peculiar difficulty have not been
without benefit to our country.

I remain, very respectfully,

Your obliged and obedient servant

L. E. W. Pierce

Recd 16 Jany. Ans 6 Feby
Acts 18

No: 62

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. October 27th. 1865

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Despatch N: 94 of the 19th July last, relative to James C. Savanagh, who was tried and convicted for manslaughter at Nagasaki in September 1863.

On enquiry I am informed that Savanagh still resides in the vicinity of Nagasaki.

In obedience to your instructions

The Honorable Wm H Seward.
Secretary of State
Washington.

I.

I have addressed a letter to Mr Mangum, the Consul at that port of which I
N°1. herewith transmit Copy Enclosure N° 1, desiring him to take the necessary steps for the removal of Savanagh from Japanese territory, - and to make due return to this Legation accordingly.

In order to prevent Savanagh from attempting to take up his residence at either of the other opened ports, I have given notice of your instruction on the subject to the Consul
N°2. at Kanagawa (Copy Enclosure N° 2.) and also to the Commercial Agent at Hakodate.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant
A L Portman.
Chargé d'affaires ad interim in Japan.

No 106.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo October 27th 1865.

Sir,

With reference to a despatch received at the State Department from Mr Walsh, then Consul at Nagasaki, relative to the return to Japan of James Cavanagh, who was tried and convicted there for manslaughter in September 1863, I am directed, should Cavanagh still be in Japan, in order to carry out the Stipulations of Article VII of the Treaty of Yedo

W P Mangum Esq
American Consul
Nagasaki.

&c

to take the necessary steps for his removal from Japanese territory.

I have therefore to request you, as Yavanagh is still said to be within your consular jurisdiction, to take those necessary steps as above stated;

— and of your action in this matter You will please make due return to this Legation.

Notice of the instructions received by me on the subject has been given to the Consul at Kanagawa — and also to the Commercial Agent at Hakodate.

I am sir,

Respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

Signed A L Portman.

Chargé d'Affaires ad. in Japan.

No. 107.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. October 27th 1865

Sir.

I am directed, in order to carry out the stipulations of Article VII of the Treaty of Yedo. to take the necessary steps for the removal from Japanese territory of James Cavanagh, who in September 1863 was tried and convicted for manslaughter at Nagasaki in the vicinity of which place he is now presumed to be residing.

I have addressed a letter on

Geo. I. Fisher Esq.
American Consul.
Kanagawa.

&c

the subject to our Consul at Nagasaki, to whom I also stated for the information of Savanagh if required, that notice of the instructions received by me had been given to yourself and to our Commercial Agent at Hakodate.

I am Sir,

Respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

Signed Adolf Portman.

Chargé d' Affaires ad interim in Japan.

Rec 21 Jany Mr Pruyn
No 63

Legation of the United States in Japan

October 30th. 1865.

Sir.

I have the honor to in-
form you that the accomplice to the
murder of the two British Officers,
which took place in November of last
year, had at last been apprehended.
He confessed his crime and was
beheaded this day on the public
execution ground near Yokohama
in the presence of the British consul
and other Officers.

The Honorable W H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

Mr.

As in the case of Simidzu Seiji, the principal murderer who was executed in December of last year, - placards proclaiming his crime and sentence have been conspicuously posted at various places within the Treaty limits of Kanagawa. - This Government, vigorously urged thereto by the foreign Authorities, have evidently been unremitting in their efforts to apprehend this criminal, - and it is satisfactory to reflect, that their admission of the atrocity of such assassinations has again received a practical illustration.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant.

A L Portman.
Chargé d' Affaires ad interim in Japan.

Rec'd 29 Jan

No 84.

Ans. 19 Feb

Legation of the United States in Japan

October 30th 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith No 1. Copy of a Memorandum No 1
signed this day, setting forth the course of action unanimously adopted in accordance with instructions received from their respective Governments by the Representatives of Great Britain, France and the Netherlands.

Similar instructions have no doubt been sent to this Legation. - I would have preferred to await their arrival.

The Honorable Wm H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

hds

but I know that a fairer opportunity to place our political and Commercial relations with this Country on an improved basis had presented itself, and felt no hesitation therefore in cordially uniting with the above mentioned Representatives in Carrying out the instructions that had been received.

This action is unquestionably in continuation of the policy, that was inaugurated with the Successful expedition to Simonoseki; of which the President was pleased to approve; and which has been productive of so much benefit. It was moreover in harmony with Mr Iwakura's views, as expressed in his several despatches with reference to

the

the Simonoseki indemnity, and it was also well understood, though not frankly admitted, that the temporary transfer of the foreign legations to Osacca at this juncture could not be but highly acceptable to the Taicoon and his Government - and in all probability would be the means of averting civil war, into which the hitherto existing Civil Commotion appeared likely to Culminate at an early day. -

The Taicoon and four of the five Members of which the Sanjis is Composed are now at Osacca.

I greatly regret that on an occasion like the present there is no National vessel in Japan. - Very acceptable arrangements however have

been

been made by the Vice Admiral Com-
manding H Bell's Naval Force on this
Station for my accommodation onboard
H Bell's frigate Pelorus, the largest
ship in his Squadron next to the
Princess Royal line of battle ship, in
which the British Minister and Staff
have taken passage.

The French Minister will take
passage in the Frigate Gueriere, and
the Netherlands Consul General and Political
Agent in the Dutch sloop Louisiana; and
at 10 o' clock to morrow morning the
Squadron will sail for Hilo and Waeca.-

The mail closes this afternoon,
and only a few hours are left me to
complete all my preparations for
this trip; I trust therefore that You will

excuse

excuse me from sending a translation of accompanying Memorandum by this Mail.

I also transmit N. 2. copy of my N 2
letter to the Gorojis, - and N. 3 copy N 3
of my letter to the Consular Officers
in this Country, announcing the
temporary transfer of this Legation to
Osaeca.

I have the honor to be, Sir
Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant
Adolf Portman.
Chargé d'affaires ad interim
in Japan.

(Translation)

Memorandum.

In virtue of the Convention signed 22 October 1864, the Japanese Government engaged to pay to the Governments of the United States of America, England, France and the Netherlands a sum of three Millions of Dollars as Indemnity for the expenditures made necessary by the Expedition

The Representatives of the Four Powers above named desirous of testifying to the Japanese Government the disinterested views of their Sovereigns, and of their sole desire to improve their relations with Japan, left to his Majesty the Taicoun the privilege of settling the payment of this indemnity by opening a new Port to foreign commerce. Required by the Representatives of the said Powers

to declare whether he would or not avail himself of this privilege, the Goverment of Japan declared about six months ago that it preferred to pay the indemnity, seeing that the state of the Country caused it to regard the opening of a new port as impolitic, but at the same time requested the delay of a year to provide for the 2e instalment of the indemnity.

The Representatives of the four Powers while acknowledging the right of the Japanese Government to chuse between the two conditions, did not consider themselves empowered to grant the postponement asked for, and had to refer to their respective Governments.

The instructions which they asked for on this subject have reached the Undersigned Representatives of France, England, and the Netherlands.

The right of the Taicoun to chuse between the payment of the indemnity on the terms settled by the convention of the 22e October, and the opening of

a port on the Inland Sea; is naturally admitted by each of the said Powers, but they differ in opinion on the subject of the postponement asked for by the Japanese Government.

The Cabinets of St James and the Hague require either the strict execution of the articles of the Convention of the 22d. october in this respect, or instead consent to this postponement and even to the abandonment of two thirds of the indemnity on the three conditions following:

1st That the Japanese Government open the port of Hiogo, and the City of Osaka on the 1st January 1866.

2d. That the Mikado ratify the Treaties concluded with the Foreign Powers.

3d. & last, that the Tariff of duties of import be fixed for the greater part of merchandize at 5 per cent, and can in no case exceed 10 percent.

The Cabinet of Paris, on the contrary, would not see any obstacle to according the postponement to the Japanese Government, if the latter should act in

good faith in respect to the Powers, signers of the Treaties, and would perceive a danger in imposing on it the opening of Osaka before the epoch fixed by the additional convention of 1862 - The Cabinet of Paris declares beside, formally, what is also admitted by the Cabinets of St James and the Hague; that the Taicoun being free to chuse between the payment of the indemnity and the opening of a port, we would not have the right, if the Prince execute one of these conditions, to exact the opening, by anticipation, of Hiogo and of Osaka.

The Minister of the Emperor adds in recapitulation, in the despatch which his Excellency addresses to the Cabinets of London, of Washington and of the Hague, under date of 22 July 1865, that the Imperial Government is of opinion that the solution of this question may be devolved on the Representatives of the Four Powers in Japan.

In answer to this communication Earl Cowley has informed M. Drouyn de Lhuys that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty consented to this last proposition.

The Representative of the United States of America has not received any instructions from his Government, but the measures settled by the present Memorandum being only the consequence of the policy which has been inaugurated between the four Powers, signers of the Treaties, M^r^ Portman charge d'affaires ad interim does not hesitate on this occasion to unite with his colleagues.

M^r^ de Graeff van Polsbroek has received from his Government identical instructions.

In this State of things

The Undersigned Representatives of the United States of America, of England, of France and of the Netherlands have deemed it necessary to assemble for the purpose of a mutual understanding

1^st^ on the means of reconciling the instructions of their respective Governments, while preserving intact the union and community of purpose

which has already given them such power,
2°. on the steps to be followed so as to
make the best possible of the actual
situation.

After having examined the question
in all its aspects.

Considering on the one hand, that the
proposition of the Government of her
Britannic Majesty to abandon a part of
the indemnity in return 1st. of the
opening by anticipation of the Port of
Hiogo and of the City of Osaka. 2dly of
the ratification of the Treaties by the
Mikado, and 3dly of the revision of the
Tariff of Duties, conform with the spirit
of the Convention of the 22 October 1864.

Considering on the other hand, that
the Government of His Majesty the
Emperor does not diverge from the
propositions of the Cabinet of St James,
except in what there might be in them
inopportune considering the state of
parties in Japan.

Considering, that the conditions claimed
by England and the Netherlands,

if they were spontaneously granted by the Government of Japan, would no longer present the dangers which France apprehended, of such conditions should be imposed, and would be preferable for all interested in the payment of their third of the indemnity, and that France would then have no objection to oppose to this new arrangement, which, it is repeated, is in full conformity with the spirit of the Convention of the 22d of October.

Considering, that the well understood interests of the Powers, Signers of the Treaties, and of Japan itself, require a prompt solution of questions depending, and that the abandonment of two thirds of the indemnity might facilitate and hasten the ratification of the Treaties by the Mikado, a ratification which is the best guarantee of the future good relations of the foreign Powers with Japan, and that moreover the Government of the Taicoun has engaged to obtain it from the Mikado:

Considering that the absence of the Taicoun and his principal Ministers renders any negotiations at Yedo, if not impossible, at least illusory - that it is important however to affirm our right to obtain in due time the execution of an agreement and of a solemn Convention, and to convince the Japanese ~~assembly~~ Government, as well as the Mikado and the Daimios, that the Foreign powers have irrevocably determined to exact the opening of Hiogo and of Osaka at the time fixed by the Treaties, if not obtained before in consequence of a mutual understanding:

The Representatives Undersigned have agreed ~~to~~ by common consent - to transfer for the moment the seat of their negotiations to Osaka; This measure which is in perfect conformity with the spirit of the Treaties, because, the said Representatives are accredited to the Taikoun in person, will have, besides, in the eyes of the Friends and enemies of the Taicoun, a signification which will singularly influence the happy issue of events which are in preparation.

In fact the undersigned have been informed that the Taicoun, yielding to the instances of the Mikado and the Daimios who surrounded him, had consented to receive the Prince of Nagato as recipiscent in regard of conditions which this rebel Daimio had accepted seven eight-months before from Prince Omori, Generalissimo of the Taicouns army, but which upon various pretexts he had not complied with. But the Taicoun distrusting with reason the real dispositions of his subject, fixed a period (the 13th December) after which he would consider the favorable conditions which he was willing to have given the rebel Daimio as not having befallen, and would proceed at once to his chastisement.

The arrival at Osaka of the Representatives of the Powers, signers of the Treaties, happening at this decisive moment, followed by a respectable naval force, to treat amicably with the Ministers of the Taikoun [illegible] prevent, there is room to believe, the commencement of hostilities, which would perhaps be the signal for civil war, the consequences whereof, whatever they might be, could not but injure

the political as well as commercial interests of the foreign powers in Japan; at all events, their arrival could not but give to the Japanese Government the moral support that would facilitate the results of its measures, to the effect of obtaining from the Mikado the ratification of the treaties.

In consequence the undersigned agreed immediately to address to the commanders of the naval forces of their respective countries in order to have them understand the political situation, and to invite them to proceed to Osaka, where they would sojourn during the time necessary to lead to a good result the important negotiation which calls them thither.

The undersigned take this determination, with the intimate conviction that it may lead to very fortunate results, and that in any event it is not of a nature to compromise the safe and conciliatory policy, which their respective Governments have ordered them to follow in respect to Japan.

Done at Yokohama in quadruplicate
the 30th October 1865.

(signed) A L C Portman
Charge d'affaires of the U S in Japan

(signed) Harry S Parkes
H. B. M. Envoy Extraordinary and
Minister Plenipotentiary in Japan

Leon Roches
Minister Plenipotentiary of the
Emperor of the French

D de Graeff van Polsbroek
H. N. M. political agent, & political
agent in Japan.

Memorandum

En vertu de la convention signée le 22 Octobre 1864, le gouvernement japonais s'est engagé à payer aux Gouvernements des Etats Unis d'Amérique d'Angleterre, de France et des Pays Bas une somme de trois millions de dollars, comme indemnité des dépenses réalisées par l'expédition de Simonoseki.

Les Représentants des Puissances susnommées, désireux de témoigner auprès du Gouvernement japonais des sentiments désintéressés de leurs Souverains, et de leur unique désir d'améliorer leurs relations avec le Japon, laissèrent à S.M. le Taïcoun la faculté de remplacer le paiement de cette indemnité

par

par l'ouverture d'un nouveau port au Commerce étranger. — Sommé par les Représentants des dites Puissances d'avoir à déclarer, s'il voulait ou non user de cette faculté, le Gouvernement Japonais déclara, il y a Six mois environ, qu'il préférait payer l'indemnité, attendu que l'état du pays lui faisait considérer comme impolitique l'ouverture d'un nouveau port, mais en même temps il demandait un délai d'une année pour opérer le 2e versement de l'indemnité.

Les Représentans des Quatre Puissances, tout en reconnaissant au Gouvernement Japonais le droit d'opter entre les deux conditions, ne se crurent pas autorisés à accorder le délai demandé, et durent en référer à leurs Gouvernements respectifs.

Les instructions qu'ils ont demandés à ce sujet sont parvenues aux soussignés les représentants de France et d'Angleterre et du Taïcoun Bak.

Le droit du Taïcoun, d'opter entre le paiement de l'indemnité aux termes fixés par la Convention du 22 Octobre et l'ouverture d'un port dans la rivière intérieure, est naturellement reconnu par chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes; mais elles diffèrent d'opinion au sujet du délai demandé par le Gouvernement Japonais.

Le Cabinet de St James et de la Haye exigent que l'exécution rigoureuse des articles de la Convention du 22 Octobre à cet égard, ou bien consentent à ce délai et même à l'abandon des deux tiers de l'indemnité aux trois conditions suivantes.

1° Que le Gouvernement Japonais ouvre le port de Hiogo et la ville d'Osaka le 1er janvier 1866.-

2° Que le Mikado ratifie les Traités conclus avec les Puissances étrangères.

3. Enfin - que le tarif des droits d'entrée soit fixé pour la plupart des Marchandises à 5 pour cent et ne puisse en aucun cas dépasser 10 %.-

Le Cabinet de Paris ne verrait au contraire pas d'obstacle à accorder un délai au Gouvernement Japonais, si ce dernier agissait de bonne foi à l'égard des Puissances Signataires des Traités, et il verrait un danger à lui imposer l'ouverture d'Osaka avant l'époque fixée par la Convention additionelle de 1862. Le Cabinet de Paris déclare en outre formellement ce qui

en

est également admis par les cabinets de St. James et de la Haye. que le Taïkoun étant libre d'opter entre le paiement de l'indemnité et l'ouverture d'un port nous ne serions pas en droit, si cette exécute l'une de ces conditions, d'exiger l'ouverture anticipée de Hiogo et d'Osaka.

Le Ministre de l'Empereur ajoute en résumé dans la dépêche que son Excellence adresse aux cabinets de Londres, de Washington et de la Haye en date du 22 juillet 1865, que le gouvernement Impérial est d'avis que la solution de cette question soit remise aux représentants des quatre Puissances au Japon.

En réponse à cette communication Lord Cowley a fait connaître à M. Drouyn de l'Huys que le gouvernement de la Majesté

Britannique

Britannique consentait à cette dernière
proposition.

Le Représentant des Etats Unis d'A-
mérique n'a pas reçu d'instruction de son
Gouvernement, mais les mesures arrêtées par
le présent Memorandum n'étant que la
conséquence de la politique qui a été in-
augurée entre les quatre Puissances Signataires
des Traités, - Mr Torturan Chargé d'affaires ad
interim ne hésite pas à cette occasion de
s'unir à ses Collègues. -

Mr de Schaeff van Schbroek a reçu de son
Gouvernement les instructions identiques.

En l'état.

Les Représentants Soussignés des Etats Unis
d'Amérique, d'Angleterre, de France et
de la Hollande ont jugé nécessaire de se
réunir à l'effet de s'entendre:

1.

1. Sur les moyens de concilier entre eux les instructions de leurs Gouvernements respectifs, tout en conservant intacte l'union et l'entente commune qui leur ont déjà donné toute defence, et 2e. Sur la marche à suivre afin de tirer le meilleur parti possible de la situation actuelle.

Après avoir examiné la question sous toutes ses faces.

Considérant d'une côté que les propositions du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique relativement à l'abandon d'une partie de l'indemnité en retour 1° de l'ouverture anticipée du port de Hiogo et de la ville d'Osaka 2° de la ratification des traités par le Mikado et 3e de la revision du tarif des Douanes - sont conformes à l'esprit de la convention du 22 Octobre 1864.

Considérant d'un autre côté, que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté l'Empereur ne s'écarte des propositions du Cabinet de St James, qu'en ce qu'elles auraient d'inopportun vu l'état des partis au Japon.

Considérant que les conditions réclamées par l'Angleterre et la Hollande, si elles étaient accordées spontanément par le Gouvernement Japonais, n'offriraient plus les dangers que redoutait la France, si ces conditions étaient imposées, et seraient préférables pour tous les intéressés au paiement des deux tiers de l'indemnité; et que dès lors la France n'aurait plus d'objections à opposer à ce nouvel arrangement, qui, on le répète, est tout à fait conforme à l'esprit de la convention du 22 Octobre;

Considérant que l'intérêt bien entendu

du

des Puissances signataires des Traités, et du Japon lui même, exige une prompte Solution aux questions pendantes, et que l'abandon des deux tiers de l'indemnité pourrait faciliter et hâter la ratification des Traités par le Mikado, ratification qui est la meilleure garantie de l'avenir des bonnes relations des Puissances étrangères avec le Japon, et que du reste le Gouvernement du Taïkoun s'est engagé à l'obtenir du Mikado;

Considérant que l'absence du Taïkoun et de ses principaux Ministres rend toute négociation à Jédo si non impossible du moins illusoire, - qu'il importe pourtant d'affirmer notre droit d'obtenir en même temps l'exécution d'un engagement, et d'une convention solennelle - et de convaincre le Gouvernement Japonais ainsi que le

Mikado.

Mikado et les Daimios que les Puissances étrangères sont irrévocablement décidées à exiger l'ouverture de Hiogo et d'Osaka à l'époque fixée par les Traités, s'ils ne l'obtiennent pas avant par suite d'un accord mutuel.

Les Représentants soussignés sont convenus d'un commun accord de transporter momentanément à Osaka le siège des négociations. - Cette mesure, qui est parfaitement conforme à l'esprit des Traités, puisque les dits Représentants sont accrédités auprès de la personne du Taïkoun, aura en outre aux yeux des amis et des ennemis du Taïkoun une signification, qui pourra singulièrement influer sur l'heureuse issue des événements qui se préparent.

Eu

En effet les Souverains ont été informés, que le Taïkoun, cédant aux instances du Mikado et des Daïmios qui l'entouraient, a consenti à recevoir le Prince de Nagato à l'expérience, moyennant des conditions que ce Daïmio rebelle avait acceptées il y a huit mois environ du Prince d'Owari, Généralissime de l'armée Taïkunale, mais qu'il n'a pas remplies sous divers prétextes. — Or, le Taïkoun, se méfiant avec raison des dispositions réelles de son Sujet, a fixé une époque (le 15 Novembre) passé laquelle il considérera comme non-avenues les conditions favorables qu'il a bien voulu accorder au Daïmio rebelle, et procédera immédiatement à son châtiment.

A l'arrivée à Yokohama des Représentants des Puissances Signataires des Traités venant

à

Ce moment décisif, suivi d'une force Navale respectable, traiter amicalement avec les Ministres du Taïkoun, - empêchera, il y a lieu de croire, le commencement des hostilités, qui seraient peut être le signal de la guerre civile, dont les conséquences, quelles qu'elles fussent, ne pourraient que nuire aux intérêts politiques et Commerciaux des puissances étrangères au Japon; - en tout cas cette arrivée ne peut manquer de donner au Gouvernement Japonais l'appui moral, qui doit lui faciliter le résultat de ses démarches, à l'effet d'obtenir du Mikado la ratification des traités,

En conséquence les Soussignés sont convenus de l'adresser immédiatement aux Commandants des Forces Navales

de

de leurs Nations respectives, afin de leur faire connaître la situation politique, et de les inviter à les transporter à O. Saka, où ils séjourneront le temps nécessaire pour mener à bonne fin l'importante négociation qui les y appelle.

Les soussignés prennent cette détermination avec la conviction intime, qu'elle peut amener de très heureux résultats, et qu'en aucun cas elle n'est de nature à compromettre la politique sage et conciliante, que leurs Gouvernements respectifs leur ont ordonné de suivre à l'égard du Japon.

Fait à Yokohama en quadruple exemplaires le 20me Octobre 1865.

Signé/: Adlf Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ai: of the United States

ai.

in Japan.

Signed Harry S. Parkes.

H.B.M.'s Envoy Extraordinary & Minister
Plenipotentiary in Japan.

" Léon Roches.

Ministre Plénipotentiaire de S.M.
l'Empereur des Français

" de Graeff van Polsbroek

H.N.M.'s Political Agent & Political Agent
in Japan.

Encl. No. 1
to Mr. Smith's
despatch No. 110.
dated Feb. 1st 1866.

Legation of the United States in Japan

October 20th 1865.

Sir,

His Excellency Midzuno Shumi no kami
Minister for Foreign affairs
&c. &c. &c.
Yedo.

After conferring with my colleagues the Representatives of England France and the Netherlands, I have formed with them the unanimous opinion that the promptest mode to secure a Solution, alike Satisfactory to the Japanese Government and to the Treaty Powers, of all that relates to the Convention of the 22nd October 1864. is to settle this important matter by negotiation with

with the Ministers who are at present
with the Taicoon.

I have therefore the honor to inform Your Excellency, that I propose immediately to proceed to Osacca with my Colleagues the Representatives above named.

The object as above stated is so eminently of a friendly character, that it cannot fail to be productive of substantial benefit to the Government and people of Japan.

With respect and esteem

Signed A. L. Portman.

Chargé d'Affaires of the United States in Japan.

Translation

No 112.

Legation of the United States in Japan

October 30th 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you, that in concert with the Representatives of Great Britain, France and the Netherlands. I have determined upon temporarily transferring this Legation to Osaca, at present the Seat of the Government of this Country, with a view of hastening more promptly to a Successful termination - important

Geo. S. Fisher Esq.

Ulsamul.

Kanagawa.

Legations

respectations that have been in progress
for some time.

I am sir

Respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

Richd A. Fortman

Chargé d'affaires ad interim in Japan

Rec. 27. Jan.

No. 65.

Legation of the United States in Japan.

Hiogo. November 18th. 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform You, that I arrived here on the 4th instant; and on that day addressed a letter to the Gorojio at Osacca announcing my arrival.

Since then two Conferences have been held with leading Members of the Tycoon's Government, minutes of which I herewith transmit &c. enclosures Nos. 1. and 2. I also No. 1. 2

The Honorable Wm H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

transmit.

№3 transmit № 3. Copy of the Convention signed by Earl Russell and Japanese Envoys in London on the 6th June 1862. as constituting in connection with the Treaties the foundwork for the negotiations now in progress.

Having been made acquainted with the contents of Your letter to Sir Frederick Bruce of the 15th August, in which You announce Your disposition in anticipation of the ratification by the Senate of the Convention of the 22nd October 1864 to Coöperate in the plans proposed by H.B.M's Government, I feel assured that You will be pleased to approve of my action.

The information thus far elicited is of great importance, - and in guidance

in

in further negotiations, I trust that it will be the means of leading to important results, which I shall no doubt be able to communicate in extenso at an early day.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant.

A. L. Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ai. in Japan

Yedo. November 18th 1865.

Alf Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ad interim

No. 65.

3 Enclosures.

Received,

Important negotiations
with the Japanese Government.

Minutes of a Conference held onboard
Hdl Princess Royal lying off Hiogo on
the 11th November 1865 between the Under-
Signed Representatives of Treaty Powers and the
Undermentioned Members of the Tycoon's
Government.

Present.

Sir Harry S Parkes KCB
HBdl: Envoy Extraordinary & Minister Plenipotentiary
A de Fortmian Esqr
Chargé d'affaires ai: of the United States
D de Graeff van Polsbroek Esqr
HNdl: Consul General & Political Agent.
Vice Admiral G St Vincent King CB
Commander in Chief.

Abe Bungo no kami
Member of the Gorogio

Yamaguchi

Yamafuchi Suruga no kami
Ometske of the Tycoon.
Nowuye Mondo no kami the
Governor of Osacca.

The Japanese Minister explained to the Foreign Representatives the circumstances that had prevented his meeting them on the 9th instant as had been at first arranged.-

An interview between the Mikado and Tycoon had been held on that day at Kioto (Miaco) and this necessitated his (the Ministers) attendance in that City. He had left the following day and had travelled all night in order to be here this morning

The British Minister thanked Abe Bungo no kami for his exertions and explained the arrangements made for his

reception

reception first by the Representatives then present - and afterward by the French Minister, who was prevented by indisposition from leaving his vessel. - As to the delay which had occurred at Kioto it was hoped that this would in the end contribute to the despatch of business and that it de" noted that the foreign questions had been well considered at Kioto and that the Mikado and Tycoon had arrived at a Satisfactory understanding with each other on those points.

Japanese Minister. The Tycoon's interview of the 9th was a very Satisfactory one. and no effort is spared by him to effect a Complete understanding with the Mikado on the Subject of Foreign relations. - Unfortunately this result cannot be immediately attained

m

in consequence of the evil influences which the Tycoon has to encounter.

Foreign Representatives. We hope however that the Tycoon has succeeded in obtaining that formal approval of the treaties which his Ministers more than a year ago pledged themselves to the Foreign Representatives to procure. If this has been done, then as observed in the letter of the 4th instant our business may be greatly expedited.

Japanese Ministers. This official sanction of the Mikado is still withheld in consequence of the intrigues with which the Tycoon has to contend. - Choshu's affair is one of these.

For: Sec: We regret to hear such a cause assigned, as it shows that the Tycoon's influence must be very limited if he cannot

overcome

overcome such difficulties. As to Choshu we have now reason to believe that he has become friendly to foreigners and that the Tycoon no longer meets with opposition in that quarter to the execution of the treaties.

Japanese Minister. It may be true that Choshu now appears to be friendly disposed towards foreigners, but he still retains his enmity to the Tycoon -- and seeks to complicate affairs at Kioto -- The Tycoon's object has been to bring about an understanding with all parties by degrees and thus gradually create a general opinion in favor of the treaties

Sec. Rep: We trust to hear from you that the Tycoon's efforts have been successful.

Japanese Min: Unfortunately the result has not been entirely satisfactory. Considerable improvement has however been made, and

the various parties in the Country are beginning to understand that the Treaties must be observed. It is very difficult however for a people like the Japanese to change an opinion they have so long held.

For: Rep: We should feel obliged if You would decide definitely what difficulties are now experienced by the Tycoon's Government in the execution of the Treaties.

Japanese Min: The Japanese people who do not understand the Foreign questions are very slow indeed in comprehending the situation. When the Tycoon proposes amicable relations with foreigners, persons step in to make difficulties, and persuade the Mikado that Japan ought to have no Foreign relations whatever. The Tycoon has great difficulty in controlling these people.

For: Rep:

For: Rep: Be so good as to give us the names of those obstructive parties?

Japanese Min: I am unable to give you names or to do more than refer in these general terms to the existence of unfavorable influences. - There are people however who secretly complicate affairs and oppose foreign intercourse. - Choshu is one of these.

For: Rep: Choshu's hostility is an affair of the past - and the Foreign Governments cannot take into account those secret and indescribable hostile influences to which you so vaguely refer. - If there exist it is the duty of the Ruling Powers of the Country to see that they are promptly suppressed. - The Governments of the Treaty Powers are at all events determined to insist upon the faithful execution of their treaties; - And if the Tycoon wishes to be

regarded

regarded as the Governing Power in Japan, he must be able to enforce their observance. The information we receive as to the feeling of the Daimios and influential people towards the Treaties is of a very different kind to that supplied by the Tycoons Government. We find professions of friendliness where the latter would lead us to expect direct hostility.

Japanese Mission: The Tycoon is exerting himself and with success to suppress all hostile action. Were the Sanction of the Mikado to the Treaties once obtained, everything would go on smoothly.

Netherlands Consul General. I was at Simonoseki this Year, and received earnest assurances from Choshu's Officers, that he is not unfriendly to the Treaties. On the contrary I was told that

he

he is anxious to open Simonoseki to foreign trade. - I was further told that the real reason of the breach between the Tycoon and Choshiu was the convention he made with the Admirals last Year in a word: Choshiu alleges that he is attacked by the Tycoon, not on account of his previous hostility to foreigners, but because he has lately shown himself to be well disposed towards them.

Japanese Affairs. Choshiu's disloyalty to the Mikado has not yet been atoned for. He attacked the Mikado and is still his enemy. Choshiu's friendly professions to foreigners are made solely with a view to his own interest.

Neth: Consul General. When Choshiu fired on foreign vessels, he did so in accordance with orders from the Tycoon, copies of which he furnished to the Admirals. - In these orders

the

the Tycoon declared that Foreign relations were to cease — and that foreigners were to be expelled from the Country.

For: Sec: We must now enter on the particular business that is before us. — The Japanese Minister is doubtless familiar with the Convention of 1864 — and also with the agreement made by the Japanese Envoys with Earl Russell in London in 1862. — By that agreement H Brit's Government consented that Hiogo and other places should remain closed for five Years on certain conditions, which the Japanese Minister must be aware have not been fulfilled. Therefore in the terms of that agreement H Brit's Government can insist upon the opening of Hiogo at once if they see fit to do so. According to the Convention of

1864

1864 the Tycoon bound himself to pay an in-
demnity of $ 3.000.000. or to open a port.
The Tycoon after considering the subject for nearly
six months decided upon paying the indemnity;
but at the time that he informed the Re-
presentatives of his choice, he applied for a
considerable postponement of the date fixed
for payment. This application has been
communicated by the Representatives to
their respective Governments and instructions
have now been received. They are to the
effect that the Governments of the four
Powers are not satisfied with these repeated
delays and evasions on the part of the
Tycoon's Government - and they are determined
upon requiring the punctual payment of
the indemnity, if the Tycoon should still
prefer this condition to the alternative which

we

we now have to propose. - there are based on the desire of our Governments to furnish another proof of their friendliness to the Tycoon by convincing him that it has never been their wish to exact money from his Government; but to improve our relations with Japan. these relations can be better promoted by the extension of commerce than by the payment of indemnities. Our Governments are therefore willing to remit to the Tycoon two thirds of the money stipulated in the convention of October 22nd 1864 - in return for the immediate opening of Hiogo and Osaca to trade - the formal consent of the Mikado to the treaties and the regularization of the tariff on a basis of 5 percent. - In virtue of the London Convention of 1862 the opening of Hiogo and Osaca might be demanded at any moment.

and

and a revision of the tariff can be claimed under the Treaty itself. A formal announcement by the Mikado of ~~the~~ his approval of the treaties is therefore the only additional measure that is now asked - and this is simply a mark of friendship which ought to be granted without hesitation - and which the Japanese Ministers promised to obtain upwards of a year ago. We greatly regret to hear that this has not been obtained - and are naturally led to inquire why? We are justified in supposing that it is not withheld at the instigation of a strong hostile party, because we have received friendly assurances from some of the reputed leaders of that party, - and also because the Ministers himself is unable to name a single Daimio or person of influence who takes a part against

Foreigners

foreigners. - At the same time it would not be surprising to find that foreign intercourse was regarded in a distasteful light by Mikado and Daimios, if it be true that the Tycoon, as is alleged involves them in its burdens and yet deprives them of participation in its advantages.

It is possible that the division which is reported to exist between the Mikado and Tycoon - and between the Tycoon and certain of the Daimios may be occasioned by disputes among themselves in which foreigners have no concern, - Such causes however cannot be allowed by the Foreign Governments to interfere with the exercise of their treaty privileges. - In the proposed arrangements, which we have not met to discuss, an opportunity is afforded to the Tycoon of proving whether he is really well

disposed

disposed toward those Governments with whom he has made Treaties - and is willing to improve and extend his relations with them.

Japanese Min[r]: I am aware that the opening of Hiogo and Osacca was postponed on certain conditions - the Tycoon's Government frankly report that they have not been able to keep those conditions, but this result is not attributable to unfriendly feelings on their part toward the Foreign Governments, but to the obstacles they encounter among their own people.

For: Rep: We should be glad if you would describe these obstacles.

Japanese Min[r]: The Daimios were at one time hostile, they have ceased to be so now - in so far that they no longer wish to engage in open conflict with the foreigners, - but their opinions are still divided on the subject of

foreign

foreign trade and they would be glad to see it stopped. - I cannot give you as you request the names of any of these Daimios - indeed the opinions I refer to are those rather of Sections of the population than of individual Daimios

In Rep: We are glad to gather from your remarks some confirmation of the statements we have heard elsewhere - that the Daimios are adopting more intelligent views respecting Foreign relations, - and are laying aside their old unreasoning hostility. This state of things should materially facilitate the adoption of a liberal policy by the Tycoon's Government.

Japanese Min: But if Hiogo and Osaca were opened at this moment the old feeling would return and the people's minds would be much disturbed.

In: Rep: In our opinion such an assertion

Cannot

Cannot be maintained. - We have never found the people unfriendly - and if the Daimios have ceased to be actively hostile, as the Japanese Minister himself states is the case, we cannot see why the opening of the ports named in the 3d Article of the Treaty should be longer deferred. The foreign Governments will not be content to go on waiting if they think that the delay is occasioned by faulty administration on the part of the Tycoon.

Japanese Affairs: Affairs are by no means in a settled condition. - The Mikado's approval of the Treaties is still withheld and must be obtained before any new ports can be opened. The Tycoon must proceed very gradually in this matter. He in order to show his friendship to the Foreign Powers

he

he were suddenly to open new ports and cause fresh troubles to break out, neither foreign nor native interests would be benefited. - I hope that the Representatives will understand that the Tycoons Government has great difficulties to contend with.

For: Sep: You keep us so entirely in the dark as to the nature of these alleged difficulties that it is not possible for us to understand them. - On the other hand the information that reaches us from other quarters is of such an opposite character that we may be excused from doubting whether these difficulties have any real existence

These indefinite statements have been so often repeated by the Tycoons Government during the last six years, that we can no

longer

longer place any reliance on them.-

It is clear that the Tycoons Government either occasions these difficulties themselves or are powerless to prevent them.

Do You wish us to understand that the Tycoons Government positively prefer punctual payment of the indemnity to accepting the alternative conditions now proposed?

Japanese Min. We are quite prepared to pay the indemnity in punctual quarterly instalments as stipulated in the Convention.- We would rather pay this money and even a much larger Sum than open new ports. This cannot be done while the present troubles Continue - while Choshu remains unpunished, or until various improvements in our Government are effected, such as the Construction of a Navy, better batteries &. - We wish also to

Change

change the present wrong System in respect to the trade of the Daimios. At present a Daimio can only trade at the open ports through the Custom House Officers and not by means of his own Agents. We are considering how an improved System can be introduced.

For: Dep: The restrictions placed on the trade of the Daimios is one of the heads of Treaty on the part of the Tycoons Government of which we Complain. The Treaty Powers consider that the fulfilment of these Treaties is a first duty on the part of the Tycoons Government, and should take precedence of the erection of batteries & which are not needed to protect the Country against a foreign enemy. - When does the Tycoons Government propose to open Hiogo and Osacca?

Japanese

Japanese Min: Not before Choshu has been punished. - We are aware that we are bound to open there and other ports in the beginning of 1868, - and we trust to be able to do so about or possibly before that time.

For: Rep: The foreign Governments conceded the postponement of the opening of Hiogo and other ports on certain conditions. Ch these conditions have not been kept, the Foreign Governments have a perfect right to insist upon the opening of these ports when they think proper. (Paragraph in London Convention referring to this point then read). The Japanese Ministers will therefore understand that the period of the opening of these ports does not rest entirely with the Tycoon - and that it is quite

written

within the competence of the Foreign Powers to withdraw the concessions made in 1862 whenever they see fit to do so.

Japanese Min. We regret that we have not kept all the conditions of the London agreement of 1862, but we trust that the Foreign Government will indulgently consider the difficulties of our position.

Sir Rep. We cannot hold out the hope that the indulgence of the Foreign Governments in respect to Hiogo will be much longer continued. How can the Foreign Government take into consideration the alleged difficulties of the Tycoon so long as it is impossible to understand in what they consist, - and the Tycoon's Ministers withhold all explanation respecting them. The reticence of the Tycoon's Ministers in

an old subject of complaint. Again the foreign Governments must be satisfied that their indulgence is not abused by the Tycoon's Government. What good reason can the latter give for not having removed those restrictions on trade and intercourse which they are bound to do by the London agreement?

The very first condition the revocation of the old law outlawing foreigners has not yet been complied with.

A discussion here arose among the Japanese as to the correct translation into their language of that passage in the London Convention of 1862 which relates to the last named subject. After advancing several contradictory statements, the Japanese Ministers finally declared that the law in question had been repealed twenty or thirty years

ago

ago. and that the revocation had again been repeated at a later date which he could not remember. He would satisfy himself on that point and inform the Foreign Representatives.

For. Rep: The revocation of this old law is only one of the various conditions of the London agreement. Most of the restrictions on trade, which should have been abolished both by the Agreement and by Treaty still exist. - and I must repeat that on this ground alone the foreign Governments can at any time claim the opening of Hiogo and Osacca irrespective of the payment of the indemnity of the Convention of 1864

Netherland Consul General. And I must distinctly remind the Japanese Minister that the Netherlands Government can demand

the

the opening of Hiogo at any moment as, although they have their consent to the postponement agreed to by H.B.M.'s Government. That concession was never formally communicated to the Ministers of the Tycoon.

Fr. Rep: We are anxious that the Japanese Ministers should carefully consider the proposals that have been made to him. If they are rejected by the Tycoon's Government, and the speedy opening of Hiogo and Osacca refused, we shall have to represent to our respective Governments our belief as to whether the Tycoon's Government have good reasons for this refusal. Our Governments will then consider whether they will insist upon their right to demand the opening of this and other ports on the ground of the non-fulfilment of the conditions of the London agreement of 1862. If therefore

therfore the Japanese Ministers delay the opening
of these ports, they may find themselves called
upon to yield the point without being able
to secure the advantage now offered them of
a remission of two thirds of the indemnity.
The foreign Governments can demand both
the opening of Hiogo and Osacca and the
payment of the indemnity - and yet are
willing at the present time to forego the
latter if the Tycoons Government will give
a proof of friendliness and of their wish
to encourage trade by voluntarily opening
the ports themselves. - The Japanese Ministers
should therefore clearly see that their ad-
vantage lies in giving favorable consideration
to the proposals now made to them. We
cannot perceive that the opening of Hiogo
and Osacca under present circumstances

Can

Can be either difficult or injurious to the Tycoon. - On the contrary by conceding this point promptly he will strengthen the friendship of the Foreign Powers. - may secure the remission of $ 2000000. and may avoid finding himself in the position of having to open the port unconditionally upon the demand which the Foreign Governments under the agreement of London are entitled at any time to make. - The foreign Governments wish to support that of the Tycoon, but they expect to find their friendship and consideration reciprocated. - They have reason to believe that this would be done by those Daimios who have expressed themselves anxious to cultivate relations. - and the Ministers of the Tycoon should bear in mind, that there is nothing in the Treaties which forbids intercourse

with

with their Daimios at their own ports.

Japanese Minister. Their arguments place the subject in a new light, and I shall be glad to give them my best consideration. To enable me to do this, I should wish to adjourn this conference until tomorrow at 10 o'clock.

The conference then terminated.

Minutes of a Conference held onboard
H.B.M.S. Princess Royal lying off
Hiogo on the 14th November 1865 between
the Undersigned Representatives of Treaty
Powers - and the undermentioned
Members of the Tycoons Government.

Present.

Sir Harry S. Parkes K.C.B.
H.B.M's Envoy Extraordinary and
Minister Plenipotentiary

A.L. Portman Esq
Chargé d'affaires ai: of the United States

D. de Graeff van Polsbroek Esq.
H.N.M. Consul General & Political Agent.

Vice Admiral George H. Vincent King C.B
Naval Commander in Chief.

Satchibara Idzumi no Kami

a

a Vice Minister and Member of the Council accompanied by an Ometske of high rank. -

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The Vice Minister stated that he had been sent by the Tycoon to meet the Foreign Representatives in the place of Abé Bungo no Kami, who was prevented by indisposition from keeping the engagement he made with them on the 11th instant. O. Galawara Ike'no Kami Member of the Gorojo had also been directed to accompany him, but was prevented like Abé Bungo no Kami by sickness from doing so.

For: Rep: It is unfortunate that we should have to deal on each occasion with a fresh Envoy.

Japanese Minister. The Tycoon received Abe Bungo no Kami's report of the Con

ference

ference of the 11th with the Foreign Representatives, and perfectly understood the arguments urged by the latter and the justice of them. - He had some idea of the Foreign question before, but has now for the first time fully understood it, - and is of opinion that it merits grave consideration. - The Tycoon earnestly wishes a Satisfactory adjustment and will proceed to Kioto without delay to deliberate with the Mikado, whose Sanction is necessary to the steps that have to be taken. - Abé Bungo no Kami promised to bring to day a decisive answer to the proposal of the Representatives, but as the Tycoon is himself unable to come to a determination without previously obtaining the approval of the Mikado, he will proceed to Kioto for that

purpose

purpose.- We hope the Representatives will wait a few days to admit of our obtaining a final answer.

For. Rep: Are we to understand these remarks to mean that the Tycoon has not yet explained to the Mikado the state of foreign relations as applied to the approval of the Treaties?

Japanese Men: The Tycoon may have spoken with the Mikado in general terms about foreign relations, but the difficulty as to the Sanction of the latter to the Treaties still exists.- It is with the view of obtaining this Sanction that the Tycoon now proposes to visit Kioto

For. Rep: But the Tycoon has only just returned from Kioto where he stayed a week - and his interview with the Mikado

was

was assigned as the cause of the delay which occurred in sending Abé Bungo no kami to meet the Foreign Representatives.

Japanese Minister. That is true, but the late audience had more reference to the affairs of Hakodadi than to foreign relations.

For: Rep. How long will it take to learn the result of this second audience?

Japanese Min: As the Tycoon will be unable to leave until the day after to-morrow and will take two days to go up and the same time to return, - and as the negotiations at Kioto will take some time, we wish you to delay your departure for fifteen days.

For: Rep: As the Tycoon has so much difficulty in explaining matters at Kioto, perhaps it would be as well if the

Representatives

Representatives were to accompany him there.

Japanese Min. That would seriously complicate matters; it would alarm the people and provoke the violence of the hostile party. The Tycoon himself will really proceed to Kioto for the purpose of fully explaining matters in person to the Mikado.

Sir Rep. Are we positively to understand that during the year that has elapsed since the Tycoon undertook to obtain the Mikado's sanction to the Treaties, he has done nothing to effect this measure.

Japanese Min. That is not so. The Tycoon has always been endeavoring to arrive at this result, but in consequence of the many difficulties he has had to contend with, he has not hitherto been able to succeed.

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Jor. Rep: Can the Tycoon himself secure the Mikado's Sanction to the Treaties, or does it depend upon the Mikado's pleasure to give or withhold it?

Japanese Min: The Tycoon will explain the matter fully to the Mikado, and will use every endeavor to obtain this Sanction.

Jor: Rep: If the Tycoon represents matters clearly to the Mikado, will the Mikado then give his Sanction?

Japanese Min: The Tycoon will represent affairs in such a manner that the Mikado will be compelled to give his Sanction to the Treaties.

Jor Rep: As to Hiogo and the other ports and places named in the Treaty, - is it necessary for the Mikado's consent to be first given before them can be opened?

Japanese Minister. Yes. the Tycoon must first obtain the Mikado's consent.

Mr. Alcock: In the event however of the Mikado's consent being refused, can the Tycoon in the exercise of his own authority open these ports?

Japanese Minister. The Tycoon will certainly succeed on this occasion in obtaining the Mikado's consent.

Mr. Alcock. On the subject of the revision of the Tariff must the Tycoon also first refer to Yeddo for the Mikado's orders?

Japanese Min. Matters relating to the customs need not be referred to the Mikado, as they are not considered to be of sufficient importance. - Formerly the Tycoon had the power as ruler of the Empire to open ports, but now that the state of affairs has changed

the

the Mikado's consent must first be obtained.

Jor: Rep: You of course do not intend us to infer from these remarks any inability on the part of the Tycoon to give effect to the engagements he has already contracted?

Japanese Men: The Mikado must give his Sanction to the Treaties that have already been concluded. This is required to enable the Tycoon to faithfully carry out his obligations. - It is to the absence of this Sanction that any failure on the Tycoon's part to fulfil his obligations is to be attributed, - and also all the troubles in respect to foreign relations which have hitherto occurred. - I repeat that formerly the Sanction of the Mikado to the treaties was not required, because the Tycoon himself

Sold

held Sovereign powers (lit: was the King (Ki of the Country/. but in the present state of affairs, he cannot enter into any new treaties, or even carry out all the engagements of those already made without the approval of the Mikado.

Jor: Rep: If that be the state of affairs, it is of vital importance to the Tycoon to obtain the Mikado's approval. Unless he does so, and proves to Foreign Governments that he is really charged with the conduct of Foreign affairs, his position will become as subordinate as that of an ordinary Daimio.

Japanese Min. This is perfectly true, and it is precisely because the Tycoon understands this contingency, that he now intends to leave at once for Kioto, in order

to settle this point with the Mikado.

For: Rep: The Tycoon however and the Mikado also must clearly understand that whether the Treaty Powers have in future to deal either with one or the other, they will insist upon the strict fulfilment of the Treaties. - If the Tycoon wishes to be regarded as the governing Power, he must be careful to take whatever steps are necessary to make his power complete. Now what the Japanese Minister says, this Sanction of the Mikado to the Tycoon's past acts and his authority for the future control of Foreign Affairs appears indispensable, - and we trust in his own interest that he will succeed in obtaining it. We wish to put a question as to that clause of the London agreement of

1862

1862, which provides that the Daimios may trade at the open ports through their own Agents. The necessary permissions appear however to have been withheld. Is this attributable to the Tycoon's action?

Japanese Min: The Tycoon can give this permission, but it would not be convenient to exercise his right in this respect as long as the Mikado withholds his consent to the Treaties. So many complications are occasioned by the want of this consent, that we consider the time has come when it cannot longer be deferred, and the Tycoon will now come to a definite understanding with the Mikado.

Tri Rep: We do not comprehend the necessity for their reported delays in effecting this understanding, & considering

the

the proximity of Kioto, why such a protracted interval as fifteen days should be required on the present occasion. We Cannot consent to wait so long.

Japanese Min: I am unable to state the exact time the Tycoon will require to obtain the Mikado's Sanction to the Treaties; but he is most anxious that no time should be lost. Matters have now been brought to a crisis, and Your arrival with ships in these waters lead the Tycoon to suppose that You may wish to go on to Kioto Yourselves, unless he can effect a satisfactory arrangement.

For: Rep: It is indispensable that we should ascertain what power the Tycoon really possesses - whether the Government of the Country is in his hands - and

whether

whether he is the friend to foreign Government which he professes to be. - If he cannot satisfy us on these points, we shall then have to consider how and where we are to seek the real Government, - whether at Kioto or elsewhere. -

Japanese Note. The Tycoon, in order to keep up friendly relations with the Treaty Powers - and indeed to maintain the existence of his Government must obtain the Mikado's Sanction to the treaties. If he fails in this, then he will lose his power and sink into a position something resembling that of a Daimio. I hope therefore that the Foreign Representatives will wait here for 15 days, as that time is really necessary for the Tycoon's negotiations with the Mikado.

For: Rep: We regret that the Tycoon has not made greater efforts during the year that has elapsed, since the Foreign Representatives in October last, urged upon him both in writing and through the Gorojio, the gravity of the situation.

Japanese Min: The Tycoon in consequence of internal dissensions has hitherto been unable to direct his whole attention to Foreign relations; but seeing that moderate measures are of no avail, he will now insist upon obtaining the Mikado's consent without further delay.

For: Rep. We will consider the time that we will agree to wait for the Tycoon's reply, but as we have waited here ten days already, we certainly cannot consent to remain 15 days more. We might possibly agree

to a delay of eight or ten days at the outside. and in the interval we may find it convenient to visit Simonoseki or other places in the Inland Sea.

Dutch Consul General. An agent of a Daimio called upon me in 1858 to enquire if his Master could enter into direct trading relations with Holland, as he himself wished and was ready to do so.

Japanese Men. There are other Daimios who would probably wish to do the same, but the Tycoon cannot give them permission to open their ports without the Mikado's Consent.

Lieut. Lee. To judge from the representations said to have come from the several Daimios, they believe they can dispense with the permission

and

and consider that they have the right to control their own trade, foreign or otherwise in their own territories.

Japanese Min. I am sorry to hear that such representations should have been made. It would be contrary to a mandate from Kioto, which forbid the Daimios to open their ports. Having informed You of the necessity the Tycoon is under to go to Kioto to discuss the confirmation of the Treaties by the Mikado, I wish to take my leave.

For. Rep. We cordially hope that success may attend the Tycoons negotiations. The Foreign Governments will have to judge of his power and goodwill by his actions.

Again however let us warn You that the Treaties he has concluded must

be

be faithfully kept by the Ruling Power of Japan in whomsoever it may be vested.

The Conference then terminated.

Memorandum of Mr White's
conversation

Memorandum signed by Earl Russell
and the Japanese Envoys, June 6th 1862.

It has been represented to Her
Britannic Majesty's Minister in Japan by
the Ministers of the Tycoon and to Her Majesty's
Government by the Envoys, who have been
sent to England by the Tycoon, that difficulties
are experienced by the Tycoon and his
Ministers in giving effect to their engagement
with Foreign Powers having Treaties with
Japan in consequence of the opposition
offered by a party in Japan, which is
hostile to all intercourse with foreigners.

Her Majesty's Government having
taken these representations into consideration
are prepared on the conditions hereinafter
specified to consent to defer for a period

of

of five Years to commence from the 1st of January 1863, the fulfilment of those portions of the IIIrd Article of the Treaty between Great Britain and Japan of the 26th August 1858, which provide for the opening to British Subjects of the port of Nee-gata or some other convenient port on the West Coast of Nipon on the 1st day of January 1860, - and of the port of Hiogo on the 1st day of January 1863 - and for the residence of British Subjects in the City of Yedo from the 1st day of January 1862 and in the City of Osacca from the 1st day of January 1863.

Her Majesty's Government in order to give to the Japanese Ministers the time the Ministers consider necessary to enable them to overcome the opposition now existing are

willing

willing to make these large concessions of their right under Treaty, but they expect that the Tycoon and his Ministers will in all other respects strictly execute at the ports of Nagasaki, Hakodate and Kanagawa - all the other stipulations of the Treaty, - that they will publicly revoke the old law outlawing foreigners - and that they will specifically abolish and do away with:

1st All restrictions whether as regards quantity or price on the sale by Japanese to foreigners of all kinds of merchandise according to Article XIV of the Treaty of the 26th of August 1858.

2nd All restrictions on labour - and more particularly on the hire of Carpenters, boatmen, boats and coolies, teachers and servants of whatever denomination.

3d.

3d All restrictions whereby Daimios are prevented from sending their produce to market, and from selling the same directly by their own agents.

4th All restrictions resulting from attempts on the part of the Custom House Authorities and other officials to obtain fees.

5th All restrictions limiting the classes of persons who shall be allowed to trade with foreigners at the ports of Nagasaki, Hakodate and Kanagawa.

6th All restrictions imposed on free intercourse of a social kind between foreigners and the people of Japan.

In default of the strict fulfilment by the Tycoon and his Ministers of these conditions, which indeed are no other than those which they are already bound

bound by Treaty to fulfil. Her Majesty's Govern-
ment will at any time within the aforesaid
period of five years commencing from the
1st of January 1863, be entitled to withdraw
the Concessions in regard to the ports and
cities made by this Memorandum - and
to call upon the Tycoon and his Ministers
to carry out without delay, the whole of
the provisions of the Treaty of August 26th
1858 - and specifically to open the afore-
said ports and cities for the trade and
residence of British Subjects.

The Envoys of the Tycoon accredited to
Her Britannic Majesty announce their
intention on their return to Japan to
submit to the Tycoon and his Ministers
the policy and expediency of opening to
foreign Commerce the port of Tsusima in

Japan.

in Japan as a measure by which the interests of Japan will be materially promoted — and they engage to suggest to the Tycoon and his Ministers to evince their goodwill to the Nations of Europe — and their desire to extend Commerce between Japan and Europe by reducing the duties on wines and Spirits imported into Japan — and by permitting glass ware to be inserted in the list of Articles on which an import duty of 5 percent is levied — and thereby correcting an omission inadvertently made on the Conclusion of the Treaty — and they further engage to recommend to the Tycoon and his Ministers to make arrangements for the establishment at Yokohama and Nafa Saki of warehouses in which goods coming from abroad may be deposited under the

Control.

Control of Japanese Officers without payment of duties - until such time as the importer shall obtain purchasers for such goods - and be prepared to remove them on payment of the import duties.

Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs - and the Envoys of the Tycoon have accordingly signed this Memorandum, which will be transmitted by the former to Her Majesty's Representative in Japan and by the latter to the Tycoon and his Ministers as an evidence of the arrangement made between them on the 6th day of June 1862.

Signed Russell.

Signatures of the three Japanese Envoys.

Enclosure No. 3.
With Despatch No 65.
Dated off Hiogo November 18th, 1865.

Rec'd 16. Feb

No. 66.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yeddo. November 30th 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the Mikado's formal sanction of the Treaties has been obtained; this is in fact the ratification of the Treaties.

In preference to the opening of the port of Hiogo and the City of Osacca on the 1st January next, the Japanese Government will pay the indemnity of $3.000.000. according

The Honorable W.H. Seward

Secretary of State

Washington.

(6)

to the convention of the 22nd October 1864.

A revision of the tariff has been agreed upon.

It is also quite certain that Civil war in Japan has now been averted.

I left Hacca bay on the 26th and arrived at Kanagawa on the 28th instant. On my arrival I learned there was a rumour that I had been assassinated at Hiogo. - I was immediately waited on by Governor for Foreign affairs, and received so many congratulations besides, that I could not leave for this place until yesterday in the forenoon.

This morning I communicated

to

to the Members of this Government the Mikado's Sanction, and also the instructions which they will soon receive from the Tycoon, with the view of arriving at a prompt amendment of the tariff so urgently needed.

I shall endeavor to prepare in time for this mail a detailed account of the successful negotiations and the results above mentioned, of which I have no doubt You will be pleased to approve.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A. L. Portman.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

Yedo. November 30th 1865.

A. L. Portman.

Chargé d'affairs ad interim

No. 66.

No Enclosures

Received.

Treaties ratified by Mikado
Convention of Oct 22. 1864. to be considered.
Revision of tariff agreed upon.
Nigata and Hiogo not yet to be opened.
Civil war in Japan averted.

Rec'd 2. Nov. 1865
Acknd
Reply
Copy

Legation of the United States in Japan.
Yedo. December 5th, 1865.

Sir,

In my despatch N. 66 of the 30th Ultimo, I had the honor to inform you of the results of the negotiations, in which I have lately been engaged in Hiogo bay in concert with the Representatives of Great Britain France and the Netherlands; - and in my despatch N. 64 covering copy of Memorandums (Enclosure N. 1) I submitted the reasons, that induced me

The Honorable Wm H Seward.
Secretary of State
Washington.

(over)

to unite with those Representatives in carrying out the instructions, that had been received from their respective Governments.

I trust You may have been pleased to approve of those zealous; the temporary transfer of the four Legations to Osaca, with the full cognizance of the Tycoon's chief adviser, was so evidently an act of peace and goodwill towards this Government and people, that I did not hesitate in cooperating in that measure, taking also into consideration, that the instructions referred to, being based on the Convention of the 22nd October 1864, my absence on such occasion might prove embarrassing.

Under any circumstances I know,

as

as stated in my despatch N. 64 of the 20th October, that a golden opportunity to place our political and commercial relations with Japan on an improved basis had presented itself; the opportunity should not be missed, and the results have justified my expectations.-

The Squadron consisting of nine vessels did not sail on the 21st October as intended, but one day later, and arrived at Hiogo early on the 4th November. The anchorage at Hiogo was preferred, not only for its excellence, but principally because it was deemed prudent not to approach nearer to Osaca, until the State of affairs in that City, temporarily the seat

of

of Government and the headquarters of the Japanese Army, could have been accurately ascertained. — Officers of the Legations proceeded to Osaca on that day, bearing four letters, announcing the arrival of the four Legations, and also for the purpose of arranging the preliminaries for the proposed negotiations. —

It was stipulated, that Abe Bungo no Kami, a Member of the Gorogio, held in higher estimation than his colleagues, should be charged with the negotiations on behalf of the Tycoon.

He was stated to be then at Kioto in attendance upon the Tycoon, who on that day in an audience of great Ceremony received the Mikado's Command to march against Chosiu and Suppress

his

his rebellion.-

The arrival of the Legations at this juncture at anticipated was most opportune, as it furnished the Tycoon with sound reasons for delaying his operations against Choshu with an army imperfectly organized and partly mis-trusted; a task of great difficulty, if not impossible of Successful accomplishment, particularly in this season. - It also enabled him to remain near Kioto to guard his interests, which might have been in jeopardy during his absence from the intrigues of powerful Daimios, some of whom were strongly Suspected of sympathizing with Choshu, - and others of coveting the high office of Tycoon of Japan.

G

It was conjectured, that the Tycoon's departure with his forces would be the signal for a palace revolution at Kioto, leading to serious disturbances and eventually to civil war. — The political condition of Japan at that moment, from all that could be learned, may be described without exaggeration as an imperfect state of civil war.

A building for Conferences, with limited accommodation for residence, had been selected at Hiogo; the preference however was given to Hiogo; and all the Conferences were accordingly held onboard the British Flagship by the British Minister, Netherlands political Agent and myself, at the close of each of which the Japanese Ministers

proceeded

proceeded onboard the Guerrière, when the same arguments were used by the French Minister, who was prevented by existing position from joining the Conference onboard the British Flagship. - This mode of proceeding had the advantage of allowing time, for however brief a space, for considering such proposals as might be made, - and also for additional suggestions, it might be desirable to tender, during the Conferences either on board the British or French flagships, between whom on such occasions communications were kept up without intermission.

Copies of the Minutes of two Conferences were transmitted with my despatch N° 65 of the 18th Ultimo.

During

During the evening of the 11th. Abé Bungo no Kami sent a message to the effect, that in his opinion there was no necessity for an interview on the following day; he had fully understood all that had been stated to him, - and he would hasten to inform the Tycoon, and urge a prompt consideration of the proposals made. —

I may remark here, that before leaving Yedo, I had ascertained, that under any circumstances the Government would prefer the payment of the three million indemnity in full to the opening of Hiogo and the City of Osaca on the 1st January next as proposed, - and hence, that the action of the Senate in the Convention of the

22nd.

22nd October 1864 could in no degree be affected by any subsequent action on the part of the Japanese Government.

The second Conference was held with Tatchibana Idzumi no kami, a Member of the 2nd Council, who came in place of Abé Bungo no kami. From the minutes of that Conference (Enclosure N: 2 of despatch N: 65) You will have perceived, that he made the important admission that the formal Sanction of the Treaties by the Mikado had become a vital question for the Tycoon, and that he would undoubtedly succeed in obtaining it. He stated, that fifteen days were required for considering the proposals and framing the reply; ten days from that date however were only

only granted at being deemed quite sufficient for that purpose.

Communications from subordinate officials, such as the Governor of Osaca and others of that rank, were frequently received in the meantime, but those were considered of minor importance and of doubtful reliability. On the 20th however, a report was received through the Senior Naval Officer Com. manding some seven armed vessels at Hiogo, that the Mikado had actually asserted his Sovereign rights by dismissing from office the Tycoons Minister Abé Bungo no Kami, with whom the first interview had been held, for urging the Sanctioning of the Treaties. - Matmai Dewa no Kami, another Member of the

Gorojo or Tycoons Minister, had also been dismissed for the Same cause. - The next step might be an attempt to dismiss the Tycoon himself.'

This Japanese Commodore evidently believed the statement he had made; his Seven vessels Got up steam and Sailed for other ports in the Inland Sea; it was thought not improbable, that the Mikado might attempt to dismiss foreign intercourse in an equally Summary manner, and require him to carry out Such a decree with the Naval force under his command. -

The report of the Naval Officer was corroborated by an official statement; early on the next day. It was well known fortunately that

the

the material power was in the hands of the Tycoon, - and all that was requisite for the removal of complications was the prompt and manly exercise of that power. - Six of the ten days granted for a reply to the proposals made had nearly elapsed, - and no time should be lost therefore, if any action on the part of the Foreign Representatives in this emergency were deemed advisable. -

It was unanimously determined to address an identical letter to the Tycoon to stimulate him to action, - and this was done at once. - I herewith transmit Enclosure N° 1 copy of that letter. N. 1

The precise manner in which

that

that letter was made available by the Tycoon could not well be ascertained.

It may however be taken for granted, that when the greatest excitement and confusion prevailed in the Kioto councils, the Tycoon with a few thousand men proceeded to Fusimi near Kioto; a very respectful application was slightly pressed, - the Mikado yielded, and his formal sanction to the Treaties was obtained.

This of course implied the formal repeal of those offensive laws against foreigners, hitherto in force according to the views of some native legal authorities, and at such appealed to on the various occasions, when foreigners had been assassinated.

On the 24th Ultimo the ten days granted for the reply expired; and in the afternoon of that day Matsudaira Höki no Kami, the Senior Member of the Gorogio at Osacca and Suite announced their arrival. They produced (as they stated) the original document, the Sanction of the Mikado, translation

No. 2 of which (Enclosure N° 2) I herewith transmit. This was accompanied by an official letter from the Gorogio, transmitting a copy of the Sanction and containing the reply to the proposals

N. 3 made. (translation Enclosure N° 3.

Appended to the copy of the Sanction is the translation of the written promise for its promulgation in all parts of Japan.

H.S.

The revision of the tariff on a uniform basis was readily granted; - the Mikado's sanction smoothes the way for reforms, and this was one urgently needed. -

The indemnity is to be paid in preference to the opening of Hiogo and Osaca on the 1st January 1866, which is however guaranteed on the 1st January 1868, according to the terms of the extension granted by the United States.

The Treaties as well as all the acts of the Tycoon's Government in pursuance thereof have now become legalized; - and the Tycoon is said to be again the supreme executive authority in this empire. -

It is deemed quite probable

that

that the Choshiu rebellion will now be satisfactorily disposed of without resort to coercive measures. - There is also little doubt, that many Daimios &c. sired to open ports in their provinces, with a view of collecting revenue; and that all restrictions hitherto imposed to the dealings of their agents with the foreign merchants, except through the Custom houses at the open ports, will be gradually removed by the Tycoon's Government. -

If this be successfully accomplished trade is likely to increase greatly. I hope soon to be able to inform you, that this Government is moving in the right direction, according to the promises they have made.

I

I have the honor to transmit

No: 4 copy of my letter to the British 4/4

Minister in acknowledgment of the

hospitality I enjoyed onboard H.B.M.S.

Colonel during the entire period of

the negotiations in Yaccabay covering

one month. - If I had been in command

of a Squadron, no greater facilities could

have been at my disposal than those,

so cordially extended to me by Vice

Admiral King and Captain W.H. Haswell

of H.B.M. Navy. -

I believe I am not too sanguine

when venturing to submit it as my

opinion, that the formal Sanction of

the Treaties by the Mikado, recognized

by all Japanese as the Real Sovereign

of their Country, will prove an important

result

result of the recent negotiations, due in a great measure, no doubt, to the perfect unanimity of views and action of the foreign representatives. The Tycoon is under lasting obligations to the four Powers for the action taken by them so opportunely for his interests and the true interests of Japan. and by sanctioning the Treaties, the Tycoon is recognised as the defacto Chief of the Government of this Country.

Much remains to be done however. - Several Daimios in the Kioto Council reluctantly assented; the relations newly created by this irrevocable act of the Mikado, between himself, the Tycoon and the more or less Sovereign Daimios will have to be adjusted; but a basis for

Such

such adjustment appear to have been found at last in the Sanction granted, in connection with the various agreements made between the Tycoon and leading Daimios, which are now said to be in course of perfection.--

I am inclined to share the hopeful views entertained of the future, and expressed without hesitation by the Yedo Officials.-

At an early day I hope to receive the official communication, that the Mikado's ratification has been promulgated in all parts of the empire.

I have the honor to be, Sir

Very Respectfully.

Your most Obedient Servant

A. L. Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ad interim in Japan

Yedo. December 5. 1860.

A. L. Portman

Chargé d'affaires ad interim.

No. 67.

4 Enclosures

Received.

The recent negotiations in Yedo.. the Mikado's ratification of the Treaties and the results.

This

No. 116. (original not numbered.)

Legation of the United States in Japan.

November 21. 1865.

To

His Majesty

the Tycoon of Japan

&. &. &. &. &.

Sire,

The formal declarations of Your Majesty's Ministers have created the impression that the cause of the difficulties experienced in the proper execution of the Treaties may be traced to the opposition made by the Mikado and some Daimios of this Empire.

In order to remove the cause which injuriously affects American interests,

and

and which is fraught with danger for the peace of Japan. Your Majesty's presence at Osacca near Kioto has induced me to urge in person the prompt solution of those difficulties.

By approving the obligations entered into by Your Majesty with Foreign Powers, the Mikado and the Daimios will make an end to existing difficulties, and avert future dangers.

And in view of facilitating the execution of the Convention of the 22nd October 1864, it has been proposed to Your Majesty in evidence of friendship, that two thirds of the indemnity stipulated in the said Convention would be relinquished on the three following conditions, viz:

1. The sanction to the treaties of the Mikado.

2. The opening of Hiogo and the City of Osacca within a period to be fixed by agreement.

3. The regularization of Import duties on a uniform basis.

On the 14th instant Your Majesty's Ministers stated that ten days would be required for giving an answer to those proposals, and although I had then been here ten days already, their desire was complied with.

Seven of those ten days have elapsed - and the intelligence is now received that the Minister who was sent to Hiogo to meet the Foreign

Representatives

Representation has been dismissed.

In view of a measure so drastic and inexplicable I beg respectfully to submit first, that it is clearly Your Majesty's duty to settle pending questions.

A good accord between the Mikado Your Majesty and the Daimios will ensure pleasant relations between Japan and Foreign Powers, - thus promoting Japanese interests and without in the least affecting Japanese independence.

A misunderstanding between those high governing Powers may lead to most deplorable consequences.

Friends as well as enemies should understand that the Treaty Powers are firmly resolved upon securing the faithful observance of the treaties con-

cluded

cluded with Your Majesty.

I hunt therefore that Your Majesty by a conciliatory policy will succeed in maintaining the Treaties. - At all events notice is hereby respectfully given that on the 24th instant a reply to the propolah made will be expected.

Whether favorable or otherwise it for Your Majesty to determine, but the reply should be in writing. - If an answer be not forthcoming this will be considered a formal refusal of the propolals made.

With the most profound respect.

Signed Adlf Portman.

Chargé d' affaires ai of the United States ai Japan.

Translation.

The Imperial consent is given to the Treaties, and You will therefore undertake the necessary arrangements in connection therewith.

to Iyemotchi
(Tycoon's name.)

The above decree having been just issued, shall be communicated to all the Daimios and Hatamotos without exception.

You will be informed of the terms of the proclamation at Yedo.

1

I hereby put this on record.

24th November 1865.

(signed) Matteuaina Hōki nokamu.

This

To A. L. Portman Esqre.
Chargé d' Affaires of the
United States
&. &.

We have lately received from
You several communications, to
which we should have fully replied
but the great pressure of our
National affairs has caused the
delay, for which we express our
regret.

However. we now reply to
them all together, and hope that
You may deem this answer
Satisfactory.

With regard to the Treaties
our Tycoon has made. Such

Strenuous

strenuous efforts in his representations at Kioto, that the Imperial consent has been given, as You will see from the Enclosures.

With regard to the opening of Hiogo, we are not prepared to discuss that subject at present. However, though we intend to open that place at the expiration of the time fixed by the existing agreements, we will open it at an earlier day if the state of affairs shall permit. At we cannot do so at present, we shall send orders to Jedo to pay the third instalment of the Simonoseki indemnity during the twelfth month of this year as provided by Convention. And we agree

to

to carry out that Convention of the 22nd October 1864 according to its stipulations.

We fully consent, that the tariff be amended, and shall therefore at once send instructions to Mizuno Idzumi no Kami to conduct as satisfactorily as possible the necessary negotiations to that effect at Yedo.

Which we have to state in reply with respect and esteem.

24th November 1865.

Signed/ Matsudaira Hoki no Kami

Matsudaira Suwo no Kami

Yasuwara Iki no Kami

Enclosure N. 3.
with despatch N. 67
dated Yedo December 5th 1865.

This

No 121.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. November 30 1865.

Sir.

I take the earliest opportunity of my return to this place to request You on my behalf to tender thanks to Vice Admiral King, and through him to Captain Haswell, Commanding H.B.M. Ship Tetons, for the many courtesies so cordially extended to me, while a guest onboard of that Ship, during the whole period of the recent important negotiations

Sir Harry S. Parkes KCB.
H.B.M. Envoy Extraordinary &
Minister Plenipotentiary
in Japan.

in Placen Bay.

I am well acquainted with Naval Rules and Regulations, and can therefore to the fullest extent appreciate those courteies, which, in the absence of a National man of war, enabled me to Coöperate with my Colleagues on that occasion in a manner consistent with the dignity of the United States.

I shall not fail to inform my Government of all the Courteies, which, I am sure, will be duly appreciated. I can only expres the hope, that Her Britannic Majesty's Government will measure merit by Succell, - and acknowledge, that the distinguished Naval Officers, who

so largely contributed toward securing
the Mikado's sanction to the treaties,
which in point of fact is not less
than their ratification, so unquestionably
important and so long withheld, —
are no less deserving than those,
whose good fortune it was to command
in the Simonoseki expedition.

I have the honor to be.

sir.

Your most Obedient

Humble servant.

Signed A. L. Portman.

Chargé d' affaires ai: of the

United States in Japan.

End

Enclosure No 4
with Despatch No 67.
Dated Yedo. December 5th 1865.

Rec'd 2d mail Mr Clarke
Act

N° 68.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. December 6th 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith N° 1. translation of a letter from the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, announcing that the Mikado's Ratification of the Treaties was promulgated in all parts of this Empire on the 1st instant. N° 1

I have the honor to be. Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A. L. Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ad interim in Japan.

The Honorable Wm H. Seward.

Secretary of State.

Washington.

2 Inc

To Adlf Portman Esqre
Chargé d'affaires of the United States
in
Yedo

I have the honor to inform you, that on the 14th instant (the 1st December) all Daimios and others were notified, that the Treaties have been ratified by the Mikado.-

Which I have to state with respect and esteem:

On the 17th day of the 10th month of the 1st year of Ke-iu (December 4th)

Signed Mitsuno Idzumi no Kami.

Rec'd 2d Mar. fr China

No. 69.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. December 7th 1865.

Sir,

As stated in my despatch No 66 of the 30th Ultimo, I that day addressed a letter to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, informing him of my return to Yedo, and transmitting copies of the Mikado's Sanction and accompanying documents.

I now have the honor to

The Honorable Wm H Seward.

Secretary of State

Washington.

transmit

N. 1. transmit Enclosure N° 1. a copy of that

N° 2 letter — and also Enclosure N° 2. a

translation of his reply.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A. L. Portman.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in Japan.

No 120.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. November 30th 1865.

To

His Excellency

Midzuno Idzumi no kami

Minister for Foreign affairs

&c &c &c

Yedo.

I have the honor to inform Your Excellency of my return to Yedo, - and to transmit herewith for Your information copies of three documents, as follows:

No 1. The Mikado to His the Tycoon Sanctioning the Treaties.

No 2. The Minister for Foreign Affairs to Mr Portman.

No 3. With regard to the promulgation

of

of the Mikado's Functions.

I am happy to believe, that the peace and prosperity of Japan, in harmony with foreign relations, have now been placed on a lasting foundation under the strong Government of Hiu the Tycoon.

Official copies of the foregoing documents and instructions in connection therewith from Hiu the Tycoon will no doubt reach Your Excellency at an early day, - and I now have the honor to request You at once to appoint Commissioners for the negotiation with the foreign Representatives of amendments in the tariff so urgently needed both for Japanese and foreign interests.

With respect and esteem

Signed Alf Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ai: of the United States

in Japan.

Enclosure N° 1
with Despatch N° 69
Dated Yedo December 7th 1865.

This

To Adolf Patuani Esqre
Chargé d'affaires of the
United States.

I have received your letter
N° 120 of the 20th November - in-
forming me of the result of your
negotiations with my Colleagues at
Bacca during your recent visit
to Hiofo.

I am greatly obliged to you
for your kindness in so promptly
Communicating this to me, thereby
again showing your desire to promote
friendly feeling between our respective
Countries.

I shall be prepared to enter

upon

upon the contemplated negotiations
as stated to you by the Governor for
Foreign affairs Ezra Kanoa Kaui,
as soon as the official communication
to that effect shall have been re-
ceived from Oaeea.

Which I have to state

With respect and esteem
the 17th day of the 10th month of the
1st year of Kauikeaouli (December 4th 1865)

Signed Mikimo Hanui nokaui

Rec'd Rec'd 16 Dec Mr Chilton
Ans'd by telegram 18 Dec.
Instructions

New York Dec 14. 1865

Dear Sir

I wrote to you last Evening to inform you of my intention of accompanying my family to Albany before reporting at Washington

The object of this is, attending the opening session of Congress & the near approach of the holidays induces me to think I will consult your convenience by asking you to say by letter or telegram how early you desire my presence

My first desire is to see you upon your most confidential business as well as my wish to discharge any duty at as early a day as practicable will cause me to obey your summons without delay

I remain Very Truly & Respy

Yr. Obt. Servt.

Robt Parker

Honorable
Wm H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington

(Over)

I must apologize for not having officially
advised you of my having made the purchase
Linden Farm opposite Salem, which I
hope if it do not meet your approval, you
will at least recognize and tolerate I
have the opportunity of seeing you.

AHP

Rec'd 20 Mar.

No 70.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. December 16th 1863.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you, that I this day received a letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, accompanied by an explanatory statement on his behalf by a Governor for Foreign Affairs, to the effect, that the Mikado's ratification of the treaties had been so unexpected by those, whose persevering hostility to foreign intercourse had been the fruitful source of embarrassment since the opening of the ports, that he deemed

The Honorable Wm H Seward.

Secretary of State

Washington.

d

it his duty to recommend that foreigners should observe due caution when meeting Japanese, among whom there were no doubt a few, whose fanaticism might prompt them to reckless deeds, which the Government would not at all times perhaps have it in their power to prevent.

Deeming it prudent not to disregard this recommendation, I addressed a letter on this subject to our Consul at Kanagawa, No. 1 of which I herewith transmit copy Enclosure No. 1.

I also addressed similar letters to our Consul at Nagasaki and Commercial Agent at Hakodate.

While readily believing, that the Government is sincere in desiring to secure the safety of the lives and property of all foreigners in Japan, I did not fail to call

the

the Governor's attention to the mission,
on the part of the Minister for Foreign Affairs,
to accompany his warning with an
assurance of active measures for protection
or prevention having been taken accordingly.

I felt it my duty therefore to address a
letter on that subject to the Minister for
Foreign Affairs, (a copy of which I herewith
transmit Enclosure N°2.), informing him, N°2
that for any failure in this respect this
Government must expect to be held to a
strict responsibility.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant
A. L. Portman.
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in Japan.

Yedo. December 16. 1865.

A. L. Portman

Chargé d'affaires ad interim.

No. 70.

2 Enclosures

Received.

Japanese Government's Communicating watchfulness against fanaticism.

No. 124

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. December 16th 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you, that I this day received a letter from the Gorojio, in which it is stated, that "although greatly "rejoiced at the Mikado's sanction "to the Treaties having been obtained "by which the relations between the "United States and Japan have been "placed on an improved basis. - Yet "their anxiety has also greatly in-

creased

To Geo. S. Fisher Esqre.

U.S. Consul

Kanagawa.

"feared, in view of proceedings, having for
"their object a rupture of friendly re-
"lations with their Government, being
"probably contemplated by persons, who
"feel keenly disappointed at this
"solemn act of the Mikado."

It is clearly the duty of the Japanese Government to control such lawless persons; the Ronjis have been distinctly informed to that effect, and also, that for any failure in this respect the United States will hold their Government to a direct responsibility.

I request You to make the foregoing known to all Citizens of the United States within Your jurisdiction, and to recommend the observance of constant watchfulness against such outbreaks.

I am, Sir, Your Ob't Serv't. A. L. C. Portman

No 123.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo December 16th 1865.

Sir

His Excellency

Mioduno Idzumi no Kami

Minister for Foreign Affairs

&c &c &c

Yedo.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letter of Yesterday, - and in reply to inform You, that it is clearly the duty of Your Government firmly to control all such persons, who might attempt by violent means to bring about a rupture of friendly relations between the United States and Japan; - and I hereby very respectfully, but at the

Same

same time most distinctly, notify Your Excellency, that for any attempt against the life or property of any American Citizen in this Country the United States will hold the Japanese Government to a strict responsibility.-

I shall at once communicate your letter to the US Consuls at the open ports, for the information of all Citizens of the United States in Japan.

With respect and esteem

signed A L C Portman

Chargé d' affaires ai: of the United States in Japan.

Enclosure N° 2
with despatch N° 70.
Dated Yedo December 16 1865

Inclosure No 20. Mar.

Mr Adee to write a letter to Mr Hasewell

Legation of the United States in Japan.

Yedo. December 29th 1865.

Sir,

After the formal sanction to the treaties had been obtained, the British Minister, instead of at once returning to his Legation, proceeded on the 28th Ultimo from Nacca bay through the Inland Sea to Shanghae.

Through his interpreter, who accompanied him, he briefly Communicated at Simonoseki with the Choshiu authorities, who were then at

The Honorable Wm H Seward.
Secretary of State.
Washington.

Yamen

formed of the Mikado's action, which they admitted to be of great importance.

On his return to his Legation I received a letter from the British Minister in reply to mine of the 20th Ultimo. (Copy of which formed Enclosure N° 4. of my despatch N° 67 of the 5th instant) of which reply I now have the honor to transmit a copy Enclosure N° 1.

N° 1

I also transmit N° 2 copy of a letter in continuation of that reply,

N° 2

N° 3 and N° 3 copy of a letter of acknowledgment by Vice Admiral King Commander in Chief of H.B.M.'s forces in the East.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A. L. Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ad interim in Japan.

No. 40.

Yokohama December 27 1863.

Sir,

In consequence of my absence from Yokohama I only received on my return on the evening of the 25th instant, Your letter of the 20th Ultimo, desiring me to Communicate to Admiral King Your thanks for the accommodation supplied to You onboard Hell's Pelorus in the absence of a vessel of war of Your own Government, during the recent expedition of the Representatives of England France the Unitedstates of America and Holland

A. L. Portman Esqre
Chargé d'affaires ad interim
of the Unitedstates.

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to Yaccabay.

I am sure it will be very gratifying to Admiral King to receive this cordial acknowledgment of the assistance which he and Captain Hamell were able to offer You on this occasion - and I have no doubt that it will also afford Her Majesty's Government much satisfaction to learn that Her Majesty's Officers have had it in their power to render to the United States Representative a service of this nature, as being not only in entire unison with the friendly feelings entertained by Her Majesty's Government towards that of the United States, but also calculated to prove to the Japanese Government that unity of action for the purpose of

securing

securing the fulfilment of Treaties
continued to be intimately preserved
between the Representatives of the
Four Powers.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant.

(signed) Harry S Parkes.

Hells Envoy Extraordinary &
Minister Plenipotentiary in Japan.

Enclosure No. 1
with despatch No. 71.
dated Feds. December 29. 1863.

this

N. 42.

Yokohama. December 29. 1865.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter of the 27th instant, acknowledging your letter of the 30th Ultimo in which you request me to convey to Vice Admiral Kirby and through him to Captain Harwell your thanks for the accommodations supplied to you onboard H.M.S. Petrel, I have now the honor to forward copy of a letter received this day from Vice Admiral Kirby desiring me to communicate

A.L. Portman Esq.
United States Chargé d'Affaires

&c &c &c

to You the Satisfaction which the receipt of Your above mentioned letter has afforded him.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

Signed Harry S Parkes

Hill; Envoy Extraordinary &

Minister Plenipotentiary in Japan.

Princess Royal at Yokohama.

December 28. 1865.

Sir,

I acknowledge the receipt of Your letter N. 38 of the 27th instant, forwarding a copy of another addressed to You by Mr Portman the Chargé d'affaires of the Unitedstates, in which he is good enough to so handsomely acknowledge the service that Captain Harwell of the Pelorus had the pleasure to render him, and in referring in such flattering terms to the part

Sir Harry S Parkes KCB.

&c. &c. &c.

in which it was the good fortune of the Naval Officers to participate in the negotiations so recently brought to a successful issue at Hiogo.—

I beg You will express to Mr Portman that I was very glad to have had the opportunity of placing a ship at his disposal,- and that I am much pleased to be able to convey to Captain Hamell the expression of the acknowledgments of any service he had the means of rendering.

I have the honor to be &c

Your most Obedient

Humble servant

(signed) George H Vincent King

Vice Admiral and

Commander in Chief.

Rec'd Mar. 21 1866

No. 72.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo December 31st 1865.

Sir,

In the absence of a letter of credit I was unable to negotiate my draft for Salary of October 1st under then existing Banker instructions, - but learning yesterday, that my draft for Salary for the quarter ending June the 30th had been honored, I made out my account for Salary for the quarter ending the 30th September last, - and

The Honorable Wm H Seward
Secretary of State
Washington.

also

also for the quarter ending this day,
which I have the honor to transmit
herewith Enclosures Nos 1. and 2 respectively,
No 1 & 2.
— and to inform You, that I have
this day drawn on You in the prescribed
manner for $ 125.21/ (Date of draft
October 1st/ and for $ 125.21/, date of
draft this 31st December), both of
which drafts are supported by the
required vouchers.

I beg respectfully to call
Your attention to my despatch N. 24
of the 29th April last, - and to
recommend the application therein
submitted to Your favorable consideration.

I have the honor to be &c
Very Respectfully
Your most Obedient Servant
A L Portman
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in Japan.

Rec'd 21. March Mr Clarke

No 73.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo December 31 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith No 1 my account No 1 of Contingent expenses of this Legation for the quarter ending this day, showing balance due me of $35.-

I deemed it advisable to have a stone fireproof godown constructed in this Legation building, sufficiently large to ensure the safe preservation

preservation of all the valuable public property in my charge.

I have the honor to be sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A. L. Portman.

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in Japan.

Rec'd. Dec. 20. Read. Mr Thaler

No 74.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo. December 31. 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith No 1. a list of the persons employed at the Legation. No 1

I have the honor to be. Sir

Very Respectfully

Your most Obedient Servant

A L Portman.

Chargé d' Affaires ad interim in Japan.

The Honorable Wm H. Seward.

Secretary of State

Washington.

List of the persons at present employed at this Legation.

Name.	Rank.	Salary.	Where appointed from.	Remarks.
R H Pruyn.	Minister Resident	$7500 pr. annum	Albany New York.	On leave of absence.
A L Portman	Secretary Interpreter	$2500. " "	New York.	Acting Chargé d' affaires.

Legation of the United States in Japan.
Yedo. December 31st 1865.

A L Portman.
Chargé d' Affaires ad interim.

U.S. Legation in Japan.

Enclosure No 1.
with Despatch No. 74.
Dated Yedo December 31. 1865.

Rec'd 20. Mar. Mr Chubb

No. 75.

Legation of the United States in Japan

Yedo December 31st 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith No. 1. a list of the despatches sent from this Legation during the year 1865.

I have the honor to be Sir

Your most obedient servant

A. L. Portman.

Chargé d' affaires ad interim in Japan.

The Honorable Wm H. Seward.

Secretary of State.

Washington.

List of despatches sent from the Legation during the year 1865.

No. 1.	dated.	Kanagawa	January	2d.
No. 2	"	"	"	9th
No. 3	"	"	"	17th.
" 4.	"	"	"	17th
" 5	"	"	"	21st.
" 6	"	"	"	21st
" 7.	"	"	"	21st
" 8	"	"	"	27th.
" 9.	"	"	February	13th.
" 10	"	"	March	7th.
" 11.	"	"	"	9th.
" 12.	"	"	"	16th.
" 13.	"	"	April	1st
" 14	"	"	"	1.
" 15.	"	"	"	1.

Telegrams

accounts.

No 16	dated	Kanagawa	April 1st	
" 17	"	"	" 24th	
" 18	"	"	" 24th	Telegram
" 19	"	"	" 26th	
" 20	"	"	" 28th	
" 21	"	"	" 28th	
" 22	"	"	" 28th	
" 23	"	"	" 28th	
" 24	"	"	" 29th	
" 25	"	"	May 5th	
" 26	"	"	" 10th	
" 27	"	"	" 16th	
" 28	"	"	" 22nd	
" 29	"	Yedo	June 1st	
" 30	"	"	" 1st	
" 31	"	"	" 8th	
" 32	"	"	" 9th	
" 33	"	"	" 10th	

No. 34 dated Yedo. June 10th.

" 35 " " " 20th

" 36 " " " 24th

" 37 " " " 26th

" 38 " " " 28th

" 39 " " July 1st account

" 40 " " " 3rd

" 41 " " " 6th account.

" 42 " " " 11th

" 43 " " " 15th

" 44 " " " 24th

" 45 " " " 25th

" 46 " " " 27th

" 47 " " August 6th

" 48 " " " 22nd

" 49 " " " 30th

" 50 " " September 5th

" 51 " " " 8th

N° 52.	dated	Yeso	September	13th
" 53	"	"	"	15
" 54	"	"	"	22nd
" 55	"	"	"	25th
" 56	"	"	October	1
" 57	"	"	"	1
" 58	"	"	"	10th "
" 59	"	"	"	12th
" 60	"	"	"	16th
" 61	"	"	"	20th "
" 62	"	"	"	27th
" 63	"	"	"	30th
" 64	"	"	"	30 "
" 65	"	"	November	18th
" 66	"	"	"	30 "
" 67	"	"	December	5th
" 68	"	"	"	6th
" 69	"	"	"	7th

Continued

No. 70. dated Yedo December 16th

" 71. " " " 29th

" 72 " " " 31st

" 73 " " " 31st

" 74 " " " 31st

" 75 " " " 31st

Legation of the United States in Japan
Yedo December 31. 1865.

A. L. Portman.

Chargé d'affaires ad interim.

Enclosure No. 1
with despatch No. 75
dated Yeddo December 31 1865.

List of deputation sent from
the Legations during the year
1865.

Moriarty

Japan
Dec. 31-1865-